

## PROSHIKA Honey Production and Marketing Program

PROSHIKA Honey Production and Marketing Program is one of the most promising, environment friendly and income generating activities. Honey Production Program can earn more in less time with less investment. PROSHIKA honey produces in the *Apis mellifera* process. This species produces more honey and is less susceptible to disease, is easy to manage and can produce honey in small areas with less labor and less capital. In the past, honey was produced by keeping *serena* or native species of bees. This type of colony can produce maximum of 10 kg of honey in this process, whereas an *Apis mellifera* colony produces an average of 60 kg of honey. Considering all the above aspects related to beekeeping, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) approved a simpler and more profitable beekeeping technology developed by PROSHIKA for honey production and included it in their technology package. This technology is now being widely imitated by various companies across the country. PROSHIKA honey is collected from local litchi flower, mustard flower, coriander/black cumin and various flower sources of nature.



Bee colonies

PROSHIKA bee colonies were established in *Tengra, Tepi Bari, Mauna* and *Gazipur* during financial year 2020-2021. From these areas, bees can collect pollination and pollen from various flowers in nature and the condition of bees in these areas was satisfactory. But in the current fiscal year 2021-2022, a bee farm has been set up in the training development area of *Bhaluka* for maintenance facilities. Presently, the condition of the bees is very satisfactory as the polling and light amount of nectar can be collected from various flowers of the nature in this area and the bees can roam around properly. Further expansion of Bee-Colonies is in progress. It is expected that honey production will be qualitative and quality in the future with the currently adopted method.

**Table: Frame number of current bee colony**

Type	Existing	Growth Plan	Achievement	Percentage %	Total
Bee colony (including bees)	55	5	5	100	60
Bee colony (With bees)	300	100	80	80	380
Program staff	4	-	-	-	4



Collecting Honey from Mustered Flowers

Due to various natural calamities, the number of bees in bee colonies decreases at a high rate. As a result honey production also decreases at a proportional rate. Honey production of black cumin and coriander flowers decreases due to untimely heavy rainfall.

The progress of this program during the current financial year (2021-2022) is shown in the table below.

**Table: Honey production of Current financial year (2021-2022):**

Type of Honey	Target (Kg.)	Achievement (Kg.)	Percentage (%)	Rate per (Kg.)	Total (Tk.)
Honey from mustard flower	1,400	1,325	95 %	350	463,750
Honey from coriander/black cumin	300	100	33%	600	60,000
Honey from Lychee flower	800	655	82%	400	262,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>2,080</b>	<b>82.3%</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>785,750</b>

**Table: Purchase and sale information of honey in the financial year (2021-2022)**

Type of Honey	Purchasing Honey			Selling Honey		
	Quantity (Kg.)	Rate (per Kg.)	Amount (Tk.)	Quantity (Kg.)	Rate (per Kg.)	Amount (Tk.)
Honey from mustard flower	100	200	20,000	1,493	350	522,550
Honey from coriander/black cumin	-	-	-	392	600	235,200
Honey from Lychee flower	-	-	-	556	400	222,400
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>2,441</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>980,150</b>

It would be noted that offices were irregular due to the lockdown for Covid-19 and honey was not able to be dispatched as planned from the development area due to the suspension of transport.

**Table: Data of honey stored till June 2022 (own farm production and purchase):**

Type of Honey	Raw Honey From Dhamrai ADC	Processed Honey (Head Office)	Total Amount of money
Honey of Mustard Flower	1,705	467	2,172
Honey of Coriander/Black Seed Honey	89	55	144
Honey of Lychee Flower	790	124	914
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,584</b>	<b>646</b>	<b>3,230</b>

Price of stored honey = 1,212,200 Tk.

**Inclusion of oil and rice in the program:**

In the current financial year, on the special initiative of the Chief Executive and on the advice of the senior officials, the honey production and marketing program has included pure mustard oil and *Kataribhog* and fragrant rice produced by the members of PROSHIKA *Samiti* in addition to honey. Oil and rice purchase and sale information is given in the table below.

**Table : Purchase and Sale Information Oil and Rice:**

Type	Buying		Selling	
	Kg.	Tk.	Kg.	Tk.
Mustard Oil	1,809	313,513	1,594	348,140
Kataribhog Rice	3,500	184,732	3,132	196,060

During this financial year, 1,809 kg of mustard oil was procured from PROSHIKA group members. The purchase price of which was Tk. 313,513 and 1,594 kg of oil was sold at Tk. 348,140. On the other hand, 3,500 kg *Kataribhog* rice was purchased from PROSHIKA group members at a price of total Tk. 184,732 and sold 3,132 kg rice at total Tk. 196,060.

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