



Compiled by: Otieno, M. Alaro P., Nyambati, E.,
Changwony, K.

Editors: Nyabundi K.W., Mukundi K.T., Omondi,
S.P., Maina P., Wanyama H.N., Mugata R.K.

Design: Odipo S.N.,

For further information, contact:

Institute Director

Apiculture and Beneficial Insects Research Institute

P.O. Box 32-30403 MARIGAT

Director. ABIRI@kalro.org

KALRO Call Center:

KALRO CALL CENTRE: 0111010100

KALRO/NAVCDP/APICULTURE/

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LIVESTOCK ECOSYSTEMS ANALYSIS (LESA) IN APICULTURE



Introduction

Livestock Eco systems analysis (LESA) is the process in which the Farmer Field and business school members are able to learn on regular basis, the interaction between the livestock and its environment, in order to be able to make a choice on the best option of the technology innovation and management practice to adopt. It measures the effects of the different treatments in the Participatory technology development plots. The process is based on the FFBS principle of integrated production and pest management (IPPM). The FFBS group is divided into sub groups and each of the sub group is assigned the task of carrying out the LESA process on each of the specific treatments.

LESA PROCESS STEPS



Step one: Observation

Observation is the first process in LESA which involves making general inspection to note the physical conditions of the bee hives and bees, the presence or signs of pests and any signs of nutritional deficiencies.



Step two: Data collection

The second step of LESA is to collect data that is physically measured from the bee hives. The sub group members doing this needs equipments for collecting the data and note books and pens for recording the data collected.



Step three: Data Processing

Each sub group meets to process the data into information that can be shared. Data collected from each of the selected hives, per treatment, are summarized into averages for sharing with the other Sub groups.



Step four: Data presentation

The data processed by each sub group together with results of observations are presented in a plenary of the entire FFBS for comparisons between the different Sub groups and plots

The data from Apiculture LESA is summarized in LESA sheet as follows



Name of FFBS:		Group No (Sub group):	
LESA No:		Date:	
Plot No:		Week No:	
Problem addressed:			
General Information		Apiculture Data Parameters	
Apiary type:		Honey Qty:	
Date colonized:		Honey quality:	
No of hives		Wax Qty:	
Feed type:		Propolis Qty:	
Insect Pests (list/photo)	Livestock drawing/photo	Natural Enemies (list/photo)	
Observations	Recommendations (what management practice to be applied)		

