

Flooding in Uganda



Uganda, particularly the north and east, has been badly affected by the recent flooding following heavy rainfall across many parts of Africa. This photograph was taken in June on the main road from Kampala to Kitgum, and the bridge on which it was taken was swept away in the floods, severing the main link from Kampala to the north. Fortunately, all our project members are safe and the apiaries remain intact, although there was some water logging and honey production is likely to suffer as a result of the extended rains.

The National Honey Show

For HSLA, one of the highlights of the National Honey Show this year was the participation of Margaret Ogaba from the Kitgum Lady Beekeepers Association. Pictured here with daughter Lucy, Margaret was awarded a second prize award in the beeswax category. She was also able to meet with members of the Somerset Beekeepers Association, whose fundraising efforts have provided hives and training for Margaret's group



New Projects:



Mbale Community Farm Project

HSLA is currently working with Ugive2Uganda, a community farm project in the foothills of Mount Elgon. A demonstration apiary is being established as part of the farm's activities. Students and local farmers have already undertaken training and it is intended that the farm will become a focal point for practical training and project development in eastern Uganda.

Iwawu Beekeeping Group, Iganga District

The community is mainly involved in subsistence farming with limited land in relation to the population growth. Beekeeping is one way to introduce agricultural diversity and boost household incomes. Fourteen members of the community attended the 6-day training course, designed to deliver practical skills and enable the participants to move from honey hunting to sustainable beekeeping. In addition, the group has been provided with 35 hives, together with protective clothing and smokers.



Christmas Shopping?

If you are thinking about giving charitable gifts this Christmas, please consider the selection of gifts from HSLA, from just £10.00 (for a colony of bees). Log on to www.hivessavelives.com or complete the attached form and we will send a card to your recipient with a personalised message.

If you are looking for more traditional gifts and shopping online, then please log on to www.buy.at/hivessavelives.

Hundreds of retailers and service providers, from Amazon to Zurich Insurance, now subscribe to this affiliate scheme, and all of them will pay us a small commission from any purchase you make, at no additional cost to you.

Volunteer Report

During the summer, Nicola Waghorn, a student at Brighton University, travelled to Uganda and spent several weeks as a volunteer, dividing her time between HSLA and an orphanage

I am studying for a BA Geography and have a particular interest in sustainable development, so working for HSLA in Uganda created a perfect opportunity for me to carry out some research for my dissertation.

My dissertation topic is on the sustainability of apiculture within Ugandan communities. I was able to interview beekeepers across Uganda on their views about the sustainability of beekeeping, the other income-generating activities they are involved in, the quantities of honey they gain from their hives, the challenges they face, and many other questions relating to their beekeeping practices. We looked at the threats and vulnerabilities faced in creating sustainable livelihoods and I was able to discuss with the beekeepers directly what they thought was needed in order to make their beekeeping more successful.

I had a fantastic time in Uganda and went with very little knowledge about apiculture, so was glad to have had the opportunity to stay with Brian (*HSLA manager in Uganda*) who shared his extensive knowledge of bees with me. I am also very thankful to everyone I interviewed and let me near their hives. They were extremely helpful and I hope that once my results are analysed and my dissertation has been written, it will benefit HSLA in some way as well'



News from the Honey Monster

Thank you to all the schools and individuals who have supported the Hive Action campaign so far. Join me on www.hiveaction.co.uk to learn more about my trip to Africa and how you can help me to raise funds for more hives to make more honey!

And watch out for my new breakfast porridge, Honey Meltz, with wholegrain goodness and honey comb sweetness!

Thank you to all our supporters who make our work possible

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