

Different Roles of worker Bees



Beekeeping
By: Luis Zayas

Worker Honey Bees

- In the time period of 14 days, sealed in a cap cell as a pupa, it matures into a female worker bee
- In most scenarios, majority worker honey bees do most task except lay eggs and mate
- Task consist of guarding the hive and honey, gathering nectar, caring for the queen bee and larvae, keep the hive clean, and building wax



Gathering Nectar

- One of many roles the worker bee has to do is gathering nectar
- Bees visit 50-100 flowers to collect nectar and pollen on each foraging trip
- Worker bees carry the nectar in their honey sacks
- They also carry the pollen on their pollen baskets which are their legs



Caring for the Queen

- A honey bee queen is constantly being attended by her worker bees
- They are constantly following her, grooming, cleaning and feeding her



Caring for the Larvae

- Worker bees also have the responsibility of caring for the larvae in the hive
- They feed them a combination of honey, pollen, and royal jelly
- On average, they check in on the larvae 1000 times per day



Keeping the Hive Clean

- Worker bees also have to keep the hive clean
- Worker bees clean of cells that have been used
- They also clear out debris from the hive



Building Wax

- The glands of worker bees convert the sugar part of honey into wax, which permeates through the bees small pores to construct tiny flakes of wax on their abdomens.
- Workers chew these pieces of wax until they become soft and moldable enough to shape, and then add the chewed wax to the honeycomb foundation



Citations

- <https://bees.techno-science.ca/english/bees/life-in-a-hive/nursing-serving.php>
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Worker_bee
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queen_bee
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qv-GSbEdw-c>
- <https://www.orkin.com/stinging-pests/bees/how-do-honeybees-make-hives/>