



Eco Beekeepers, PO Box 10454, Vorna Valley, 1686 – Telephone: 082 3464 371 Fax: 0866 411 395 Email: bees@ecobeekeepers.co.za

ECO BEEKEEPERS

INTRODUCTION

It may be of value to address the case of mistaken identity regarding Africanized honey bees (AHB) in relation to bee removal in which the Africanized honey bee gets a bad rap. Bee removal generally refers to the process of removing honeybees from a location in which the bees are unwanted such as the wall, attic, and chimney of a home, industrial buildings, towers and masts. Having to deal with an unwanted beehive may happen only once or twice in a lifetime. Perhaps due to a decline in beekeepers, the average person knows very little about honeybees and their behaviour. When a person notices a beehive move onto their property they often attempt to handle it themselves and treat it like a wasp problem trying to kill the bees or harass them in hopes that they leave.

If the property owner is persistent in their efforts, after many attempts to kill or chase off the bees it tends to condition the bees to be more aggressive or protective against what they see as an attacker or intruder. After some frustration on the property owner's part, and in a case like this is when **Eco Beekeepers** are finally called to remove or relocate them, or in rare cases, an exterminator is called to kill them and remove the hive. In such cases upon inspection from **Eco Beekeepers**, the bees immediately attack by doing so they are assumed to be Africanized. Rescuing and relocating bees as opposed to exterminating bees takes more time but it also can be a great experience. Of course if you are not experienced with bees it's not a good idea try removing them, and especially if there are people or animals nearby.

ECO BEEKEEPER REMOVAL SERVICES

Eco Beekeepers will remove and relocate the bees for you. Bees are the biggest cause of people getting bad allergic reactions. The majority of people do not know that they are allergic to bees, not until they get stung. By then it could be too late. So to make sure that nobody gets hurt, it is best to get rid of the bees. Getting rid of bees is something that should be done by a trained and professional company like **Eco Beekeepers**. Getting rid of them yourself, could be dangerous. **Eco Beekeepers** use different methods when it comes to getting rid of the bees. Some may prefer to come in the afternoon/evening. Some may prefer to come early in the morning for the simple reason that bees are less active during these times.

ECO BEEKEEPER SCOPE OF WORK

1. **Eco Beekeepers** will assess the site on arrival as to what is required.
2. **Eco Beekeepers** will locate where the bees are situated.
3. **Eco Beekeepers** will then get dressed into their bee removal outfit, prepare their equipment and climbing kit in accordance to all safety standards.
4. **Eco Beekeepers** then approach the affected area where they will handle the removal according to the requirements of the hive.
5. **Eco Beekeepers** will then on decent, clean all equipment and the affected area.
6. **Eco Beekeepers** will then change and pack away the equipment.



Eco Beekeepers, PO Box 10454, Vorna Valley, 1686 – Telephone: 082 3464 371 Fax: 0866 411 395 Email: bees@ecobeekeepers.co.za

ECO BEEKEEPER SCOPE OF WORK CONTINUED...

Eco Beekeepers will provide the following services:

- **Training**
 - ❖ Bee acknowledgement in your environment
 - ❖ Safety of bee hives in your environment
 - ❖ BEE Safe
- **Hive management**
 - ❖ Replacement of bee colonies in your current hives
 - ❖ Sale of bee colonies to relocate into environments
 - ❖ Pollination of crops on farms
- **Inspection of sites**
 - ❖ Having bee problems but not sure where they are, Call us out and we will locate the hive and remove them
- **Honey extraction**
 - ❖ Do you have your own hives but are not sure how to extract the honey? We are able to for a nominal fee to extract your honey from your hives
- **Bee hive equipment**

ECO BEEKEEPER – ABOUT THE OWNER

The owner of **Eco Beekeepers** has had an unending passion for the Bees and their habitat. He has been involved with farming for over 15 years and been involved in the harvesting of bees. His passion has led to the development and growth of **Eco Beekeepers** and the path of heading into training and growth for other environments.

Eco Beekeepers is on the brink of further educating the business world about the environment and how bees can assist in the successful encouragement of live removal.

Eco Beekeepers look forward to doing business with your organisation and would encourage your organisation to allow us to propose CSI in the natural habitat of the bees.



Eco Beekeepers, PO Box 10454, Vorna Valley, 1686 – Telephone: 082 3464 371 Fax: 0866 411 395 Email: bees@ecobeekeepers.co.za

BEE REMOVAL QUESTIONS FREQUENTLY ASKED

Does anyone want my bees, isn't there a bee shortage?

Back in the day, beekeepers used to line up to collect your bees, but since the 1980's & 90's, there have been two harsh changes in the industry causing many beekeepers to stop collecting stray hives, and also to abandon beekeeping altogether. Firstly, diseases were never around before, begun plaguing and killing the common honeybee. Secondly, bees have become much more aggressive due to the outbreak of Africanized bees. For these two reasons, it's much harder to find a beekeeper that will take your bees. There is an additional phenomenon called colony collapse disorder (CCD). This occurs when a beekeeper (apiarist) goes out to the apiary to find a portion of the bee boxes empty. There appear to be a combination of causes for this, but 'feral bees' (unkept bees) are usually not affected by CCD.

I came home and found bees near my window, what's going on?

Often I'll get a call with a home owner saying, "I have bees inside my window" or "I came home and found dead bees near my window, what's going on?" In both cases bees are either scouting your home, determining if it's a place they want to move the swarm in to set up shop, or they already have moved in. In either case it's important to call a specialist immediately, preferably an honest one. Many people leave it alone, or try spraying it when the bees disappear in the evening and they don't see them before work in the morning. They think the bees are gone. Most likely, the bees simply went to sleep for the night and haven't started working yet in the morning.

I have a lot of flowers in my yard, is this causing the bees to move onto my property?

No, bees typically fly up to two miles away, sometimes even further, to gather nectar and pollen.

Why do I keep getting bees? What's going on?

It's likely that the house or structure has a history of bee problems from someone extracting or killing the bees, and leaving the honeycomb behind. Typically, a house will get bees about every 30 to 40 years, but if honeycomb from a hive is left in the walls, roof, or other structural void bees come back very frequently.

Why did the bees choose my home?

Bees are somewhat random in their selection of where to start a hive, though there are some things we know. Prior hives left in walls will attract bees frequently. Eaves, wall voids, and chimneys are the most common locations in a structure that bees will exploit. They only need one small hole or gap to get in! Another important thing to know is that bees prefer to be woken up by the sun. If you're going to perform exclusion work to try and bee proof your house, focus more on the East and Southeast areas of the house.

I found bees going in and out of a hole in my wall. I've sealed it up really well. Will this do the trick?

This is a typical remedy applied by homeowners, along with using cans of store-bought wasp spay. The result is that within a few days or less your bees dig through the wall and into the house, outside, or both. Trapped bees can survive for months before they deplete their honey reserves or die of thirst. It's not likely that you'll be able to eliminate the oxygen flow enough to kill the hive. But even if this were possible, the smell begins to attract rodents,



Eco Beekeepers, PO Box 10454, Vorna Valley, 1686 – Telephone: 082 3464 371 Fax: 0866 411 395 Email: bees@ecobeekeepers.co.za

bugs, and bees in the future. To solve the problem you need **Eco Beekeepers**, this means opening the area and removing the honey and the bees and the beeswax, as well as cleaning it.

How can I tell if these bees are the killer bees?

Africanized bees look the same as European honeybees. All bees should be respected when they have a home nearby. There have been many human and animal fatalities from bees aggressively defending their home. In most cases, messing with the bees in hopes of making them go away will cause more problems than you started with. Generally, the bees attached to your house or on your property are not docile honeybees though they may appear so.

The bees on my property seem very calm and don't bother anybody. They're probably not killer bees right?

A new swarm of bees, or bees building a hive, are not likely to sting. This is because they're busy building their hive, and don't have much honey or young to protect. This is true of both European honey bees and killer bees. Often people tell me, "The bees were always friendly, but they've become very aggressive lately." There can be a few reasons for this, but the common one is that the hive is established and now they are protecting it. Just because bees exhibit a friendly nature, unfortunately does not mean they are friendly bees.

What bee removal tips will help me from getting bees?

Give us a call for a free quotation, or to inspect your house. Also, find out what can be done to prevent future bee infestations.

What will happen if a killer bee stings me?

A killer bee has the very same amount of bee venom that a European honeybee has. Also, like the European honeybee, a killer bee also dies after stinging. But killer bees attack in much greater numbers when they feel threatened, or if their hive is disturbed. They also stay angry for much longer.

A honeybee stung my child, what should I do?

Remove the stinger as soon as possible. When a child is stung, it hurts and they are scared. It can help to wash the area and put something on it that will absorb out, if possible, some of the venom. Perhaps the most important thing is that the child has confidence that he or she will be okay. A good remedy is to stay calm, be reassuring, and include a dose of TLC.

Studies have found that 15% to 20% of people who, when asked, will say they're allergic to bee stings, yet medical evaluations find it's actually only about 1%. If you feel your child is allergic, seek immediate medical attention.

Why choose **Eco Beekeepers?**

It's always nice if you can have someone you trust refer you to **Eco Beekeepers** who are calm, confident, and honest to solve your bee problem.

Eco Beekeepers thank you for your support, service and business