

## COMPARATIVE STUDY ON SOME ACTIVITIES AND PRODUCTS BETWEEN HYBRIDS OF CARNIOLAN AND ITALIAN HONEYBEE

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### ABSTRACT

The present study was carried out at the apiary of Beekeeping Research Section at Sakha Agricultural Research Station, Kafr El-Sheikh Governorate, during 2005 and 2006 seasons. Sixty colonies were divided into three groups, twenty colonies each to compare among F<sub>1</sub>-F<sub>2</sub> Italian and F<sub>1</sub>-F<sub>2</sub> carniolan-honey bees on brood rearing activity, propolis and pollen gathering, royal jelly secretion and honey yield production. The results indicated that the F<sub>1</sub> Italian hybrid performed larger areas of sealed workers brood than did F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan, F<sub>2</sub> Italian and F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan hybrid with averages of 1079.93, 792.76, 847.40 and 771.72 inch<sup>2</sup>/colony/month in the first year, and 929.08, 738.96, 794.95 and 756.79 inch<sup>2</sup>/colony/month, in the second one, respectively. In case of drone brood, F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan hybrid (11.00 & 9.90 inch<sup>2</sup>/colony/month) was higher than F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan (7.96 & 7.14), F<sub>2</sub> Italian (7.05 & 6.17) and F<sub>1</sub> Italian hybrid (6.86 & 5.11 inch<sup>2</sup>/colony/month) in the first and second year, respectively. Also, F<sub>2</sub> Italian hybrid collected the largest amount of propolis (8.40 & 6.95 g/colony) compared with F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan (7.77 & 5.99), F<sub>1</sub> Italian (7.56 & 6.63) and F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan (6.98 & 4.56 g/colony) in the first and second years. The largest amount of pollen was gathered during clover nectar flow followed by maize and broad bean for the four honeybee hybrids (F<sub>1</sub>-F<sub>2</sub> Italian and F<sub>1</sub>-F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan) in both seasons. Analysis of variance revealed highly significant difference in amount of gathering pollen between F<sub>1</sub> Italian and other hybrids on broad bean, Egyptian clover and maize plants during the first and second seasons. F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan hybrid secreted more natural royal jelly in the first and second seasons (17.40 & 18.50 g/colony) than F<sub>1</sub> Italian (14.51 & 15.40), F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan (13.00 & 14.20) and F<sub>2</sub> Italian (12.60 & 13.60 g/colony), respectively. Also, F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan honey bees gathered the largest amount of artificial royal jelly (106.00 & 115.60 g/colony) during the period from 15 April until 15 June compared with other honey bee hybrids; F<sub>1</sub> Italian (97.25 & 100.40), F<sub>2</sub> carniolan (93.40 & 100.00) and F<sub>2</sub> Italian (92.40 & 99.40 g/colony) in two tested seasons, respectively. Data revealed that F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan produced the highest honey yield (6.55 & 6.95 kg/colony) followed by F<sub>2</sub> carniolan (5.75 & 7.85); F<sub>1</sub> Italian (5.51 & 5.70) and F<sub>2</sub> Italian (4.55 & 4.95 kg/colony) at the end of clover blooming season, respectively. Also, at the end of cotton blooming season, the honey yield of F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan hybrid (8.50 & 8.53 kg/colony) was more than other honey bee hybrids during 2005 and 2006 seasons. From the current results, it could be concluded that the F<sub>1</sub> Italian honeybee performed larger areas of worker brood and greater amounts of propolis and pollen than F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan, F<sub>2</sub> Italian and F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan honeybee. By contrast, the F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan achieved larger areas of drone brood and produced greater amounts of royal jelly and clover and cotton honey yield than other honey bees hybrids.

### INTRODUCTION

Beekeepers are always interested in the behaviour of honeybee (*Apis mellifera* L.) and its Italian and Carniolan hybrids under Egyptian ecological conditions to achieve more successes in their management of apiaries. Honeybees have been used in honey, royal jelly, pollen and propolis production, besides being very important as pollinator agents (Haydak, 1970).

Orchards and fields have grown larger, at the same time wild pollinators have dwindled. In several areas of the world, the pollination shortage is compensated by migratory beekeeping with beekeepers supplying the hives during the crop bloom and moving them after bloom is complete (Javovek *et al.*, 2002). Bees collect pollen in the pollen basket and carry it back to the hive. In the hive, pollen is used as a protein source necessary during brood rearing. Honey is the complex substance made when the nectar and sweet deposits from plants and trees are gathered, modified and stored in the honeycomb by honeybees. Honey is a complex biological mixture that contains mostly inverted sugars, primarily glucose and fructose. Royal jelly is a nutritional food product provided to larval bees, particularly those intended to become queens. It is also harvested and consumed by humans as a dietary supplement, as it contains various vitamins and amino acids. Propolis (or bee glue) is created from resins, balsams and tree saps. Honey bee use propolis to seal crack in the hive. Propolis is also sold for its reported health benefits (Taber and Barker, 1974 and Root, 1975). Several investigators evaluated the races and hybrids of honeybee (*A. mellifera* L.) from some aspects about pollen gathering activity, brood rearing, secretion of royal jelly, propolis collection activity and honey bee production such as Khattab (1976), El-Sarrag (1977), Mizis (1978), Marietto and Olivero (1981), El-Shaarawy (1989), Pearson and Braiden (1990), Villa *et al.* (1991), Kassem (2000), Serag El-Dienn (2004) and Matilla and Otis (2006). Therefore, the researchers and beekeepers are requested to find out the best honeybee hybrids for increasing the yield. From this stand point, the present work was designed and performed to compare among the honeybee (*A. mellifera* L.) hybrids: F<sub>1</sub>-F<sub>2</sub> Italian and F<sub>1</sub>-F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan regarding with the following points: brood rearing activity, propolis gathering activity, pollen gathering, royal jelly secretion activity and honey production from Egyptian clover yield and cotton yield.

## **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

This experiment was carried out at the apiary of Beekeeping Research Section at Sakha Agricultural Research Station, Kafr El-Sheikh Governorate, Arab Republic of Egypt, beginning from January, 2006 to December, 2007.

In each season, sixty colonies were assigned and divided into three groups, twenty colonies each. All the honeybee colonies were approximately equal in strength and in number of combs covered with bees and had sufficient food. Colonies were headed with newly and naturally mated queens; F<sub>1</sub> Italian hybrid (Italian queen x Local drones), F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan hybrid (Carniolan queen x Local drones), F<sub>2</sub> Italian hybrid (F<sub>1</sub> Italian queen x Local drones) and F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan hybrid (F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan queen x Local drones).

The following aspects were investigated:

### **1. Brood rearing activity:**

Twenty colonies were assigned for this test; five honeybee colonies for each hybrid (F<sub>1</sub> Italian, F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan, F<sub>2</sub> Italian and F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan bees). For estimating the brood rearing activity, sealed brood areas (workers and

drones) were measured in square inches at 12-day intervals (according to Fresnay, 1962) starting from January, 2006 till December, 2007.

### **2. Propolis gathering activity:**

Propolis was gathered at 15-day intervals for all hybrids. The propolis was scrapped from the top of combs, inner sides of hive boxes, bottom and entrance of the hives. Also, the propolis was collected from jute located on tops of combs inside the brood chamber. The collected propolis was weighed in grams.

### **3. Pollen gathering activity:**

Twenty colonies were used for this test; five colonies for each hybrid. The pollen traps were placed at the entrance of colonies. The traps were similar to the types used by Sung (1974), Taber (1984) and Dimou and Thrasyvoulou (2007). Trapping the pollen started in broad bean, *Vicia faba* L. from 15<sup>th</sup> January until 15<sup>th</sup> March, clover, *Trifolium alexandrinum* L. from 15<sup>th</sup> April until 15<sup>th</sup> June and maize, *Zea mays* L. from 15<sup>th</sup> June until 15<sup>th</sup> September during the two tested years. The colonies were compensated by pollen substitutes. The traps were emptied every two days and the contents were weighed and recorded.

### **4. Royal jelly secretion activity:**

During this test, 20 honeybee colonies were used; (5 colonies for each hybrid). Each colony contained 9 combs, 5 brood combs, 4 combs of honey and pollen since all combs were covered with young bees. Each colony was headed with a laying recently mated queen. Naturally produced royal jelly was collected every 4 days while that produced artificially was collected every 3 days (Doolittle method, 1909).

### **5. Honey production:**

Honey yield was evaluated by weighting the combs before and after extraction of honey collected from Egyptian clover and cotton fields (Shawer, 1987).

### **Statistical analysis:**

Data were subjected to analysis of variance (ANOVA) and significantly different means were compared according to Duncan's multiple range test (Duncan, 1955).

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **1. Brood rearing activity:**

F<sub>1</sub> Italian hybrid performed larger areas of sealed worker brood than did F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan hybrid, F<sub>2</sub> Italian hybrid and F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan hybrid with averages of 1079.93, 792.76, 847.40 and 771.72 inch<sup>2</sup>/colony/month in the first year, respectively (Table 1). The corresponding values in 2006 were 929.08, 738.96, 794.95 and 756.79, respectively (Table 2).

As indicated in Tables (1 & 2), the opposite was recorded in case of drones brood; F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan honeybee hybrid was higher than F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan hybrid, F<sub>2</sub> Italian hybrid and F<sub>1</sub> Italian hybrid with averages of 11.00, 7.69, 7.05 and 6.86 inch<sup>2</sup>/colony/month in the first year, while they were 9.90, 7.14, 6.17 and 5.11 inch<sup>2</sup>/colony/month in the second one, respectively. Significant differences were found between Italian and Carniolan hybrids in both sealed worker brood and sealed drone brood in both years.

**Table (1): Monthly areas of sealed brood (inch<sup>2</sup>/colony) in F<sub>1</sub>-F<sub>2</sub> Italian and Carniolan hybrids of honeybees, 2005 season.**

Month	Workers				Drones			
	F <sub>1</sub>		F <sub>2</sub>		F <sub>1</sub>		F <sub>2</sub>	
	Italian	Carniolan	Italian	Carniolan	Italian	Carniolan	Italian	Carniolan
Jan.	386.20	330.00	390.50	335.50	1.00	2.60	1.50	1.90
Feb.	895.50	850.50	810.30	810.35	4.00	6.00	3.90	4.30
Mar.	1750.30	1050.30	1150.35	1100.50	11.50	21.00	11.00	13.00
Apr.	1145.25	880.50	900.25	870.50	15.30	26.50	14.25	16.50
May	2450.30	2100.60	2150.30	2000.00	19.50	28.50	17.50	20.00
Jun.	2010.00	910.30	1200.00	1000.50	10.30	19.30	9.90	11.50
Jul.	1780.50	1395.50	1300.50	1201.30	8.50	11.30	8.60	10.50
Aug.	1710.35	1170.50	1200.00	1090.50	5.50	7.60	5.10	6.50
Sept.	800.00	500.50	600.50	510.50	4.00	5.50	4.30	4.30
Oct.	290.20	210.30	205.30	210.50	2.50	2.50	1.90	2.25
Nov.	90.25	20.50	70.25	30.00	0.25	1.00	0.00	1.00
Dec.	150.30	93.60	190.50	100.50	0.00	0.30	0.00	0.50
Total	12959.15	9513.10	10168.75	9260.65	82.35	132.10	77.35	92.25
Mean	1079.93d	792.76b	847.40c	771.72a	6.86a	11.00c	7.05a	7.69b

In a row, means having the same letter are not significantly different at 5% level.

**Table (2): Monthly areas of sealed brood (inch<sup>2</sup>/colony) in F<sub>1</sub>-F<sub>2</sub> Italian and Carniolan hybrids of honeybees, 2006 season.**

Month	Workers				Drones			
	F <sub>1</sub>		F <sub>2</sub>		F <sub>1</sub>		F <sub>2</sub>	
	Italian	Carniolan	Italian	Carniolan	Italian	Carniolan	Italian	Carniolan
Jan.	190.50	200.50	195.50	190.50	1.30	1.80	1.20	1.50
Feb.	393.50	460.50	390.40	410.40	2.80	5.90	2.40	3.00
Mar.	1167.40	1140.20	1161.40	1001.40	8.50	20.50	10.40	12.80
Apr.	960.30	870.40	1005.40	1000.40	8.00	15.60	10.50	12.80
May	2399.50	2000.40	2113.50	2100.50	12.40	30.60	15.50	18.80
Jun.	1495.20	809.20	915.60	900.40	9.20	16.40	11.50	13.40
Jul.	1860.40	1360.20	1550.40	1500.50	10.40	13.40	12.50	12.50
Aug.	1480.30	1200.50	1310.50	1199.50	3.50	6.30	4.00	4.90
Sept.	870.50	600.50	690.40	580.40	3.50	5.00	4.00	4.00
Oct.	175.50	108.40	115.40	101.50	1.00	2.00	1.00	1.00
Nov.	10.50	16.20	15.50	15.40	0.25	0.35	0.00	0.00
Dec.	85.30	100.50	75.40	80.50	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00
Total	11088.90	8867.50	9539.40	9081.50	61.35	118.85	74.00	85.70
Mean	924.08d	738.96a	794.95a	756.79a	5.11a	9.90c	6.17a	7.14b

In a row, means having the same letter are not significantly different at 5% level.

These results are in agreement with the findings of El-Shaarawy (1989), Kassem (2000) and Mansour (2002) who indicated that F<sub>1</sub> Italian gave higher amounts of worker brood than F<sub>1</sub> hybrid at Kalubia, Menoufiya and Dakahlia Governorates, respectively. Similar results indicated that the F<sub>2</sub> Italian gave less areas of worker brood than did F<sub>1</sub> Italian hybrid, (Huang and Otis, 1991 and Soszka, 1996). Also, as indicated in Tables (1 & 2), the highest average of sealed worker brood was found during May (2450.30, 2100.60, 2150.30 and 2000.00 inch<sup>2</sup>/colony) and July (1780.50, 1395.50,

1300.50 and 1201.30 inch<sup>2</sup>/colony in the first year, for F<sub>1</sub> Italian, F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan, F<sub>2</sub> Italian and F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan, respectively.

The corresponding values were 2399.50, 2000.40, 2113.50 and 2100.50 inch<sup>2</sup>/colony and 1860.40, 1360.20, 1550.40 and 1500.50 inch<sup>2</sup>/colony in the second year.

**2. Propolis gathering activity:**

Results in Table (3) indicated that the amount of propolis gathered by F<sub>2</sub> Italian honeybees (8.40 g/colony) was greater than those of F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan, F<sub>1</sub> Italian and F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan (7.77, 7.56 and 6.98) in the first year, respectively. Also, in the second year, the F<sub>2</sub> Italian honeybees gathered larger amounts of propolis (6.95 g/colony) than those of F<sub>1</sub> Italian, F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan and F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan bees (6.63, 5.99 and 4.56 g/colony), respectively.

**Table (3): Monthly amount (g/colony) of propolis collected by F<sub>1</sub>-F<sub>2</sub> Italian and Carniolan hybrids of honeybees.**

Month	2005				2006			
	F <sub>1</sub>		F <sub>2</sub>		F <sub>1</sub>		F <sub>2</sub>	
	Italian	Carniolan	Italian	Carniolan	Italian	Carniolan	Italian	Carniolan
Jan.	1.00	1.20	1.50	1.20	2.40	2.10	2.90	2.50
Feb.	3.50	3.20	4.00	3.50	2.70	2.50	3.20	3.00
Mar.	3.70	3.00	4.50	4.20	4.60	4.00	5.50	4.50
Apr.	7.50	7.00	8.00	7.00	10.00	6.40	10.00	7.00
May	8.00	7.90	9.40	8.00	7.30	5.00	8.40	6.50
Jun.	9.20	8.50	11.50	9.40	8.50	6.50	9.00	7.00
Jul.	16.30	15.50	16.20	16.50	11.50	8.25	12.40	9.40
Aug.	20.50	17.50	21.40	20.50	18.40	9.40	18.50	18.60
Sept.	8.50	7.90	9.60	9.00	5.20	3.40	3.50	4.00
Oct.	8.00	8.00	9.20	9.00	4.50	3.40	5.00	4.90
Nov.	2.50	2.00	3.00	2.90	3.00	2.50	3.50	3.00
Dec.	2.00	2.00	2.50	2.00	1.50	1.25	1.50	1.50
Total	90.70	83.70	100.80	93.20	79.60	54.70	83.40	71.90
Mean	7.56b	6.98a	8.40c	7.77b	6.63c	4.56a	6.95c	5.99b

In a row, means having the same letter are not significantly different at 5% level.

Highly significant differences were found between the amounts of propolis of the four hybrids in the first and second years. The highest amount of propolis collected by F<sub>1</sub> Italian bees, F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan, F<sub>2</sub> Italian and F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan were found during July (16.30 & 11.50), (15.50 & 8.25), (16.20 & 12.40) and (16.50 & 9.40 g/colony) and August (20.50 & 18.40), (17.50 & 9.40), (21.40 & 18.50) and (20.50 & 18.60 g/colony) in the first and second seasons, respectively. The lowest amounts of propolis gathered by either hybrid were during November, December and January, ranging between 1.00 – 3.50 g/colony/month in both seasons. The amount of propolis harvested per colony depends on many factors such as the race of bees, strength of the hive, plant sources, weather conditions and needs of the hive (El-Shaarawy, 1989; Bonvehi, 2000 and Al-Shaher *et al.*, 2004). Also, these results are in harmony with the results of Kassem (2000), Marcucci *et al.* (2000) and Bankova *et al.* (2007).

**3. Pollen gathering activity by the honeybee hybrids:**

As indicated in Table (4), the largest amount of pollen was gathered during clover nectar flow followed by maize and broad bean for the four hybrids in both seasons. F<sub>1</sub> Italian bees gathered more pollen during broad bean season (800.60 & 793.50 g/colony) than F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan (610.40 & 700.40 g/colony), F<sub>2</sub> Italian (600.50 & 751.50 g/colony) and F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan (595.00 & 741.40 g/colony) in the first and second seasons, respectively. Also, F<sub>1</sub> Italian bees collected more pollen during maize season (925.40 & 975.50 g/colony) than F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan (810.50 & 861.50 g/colony), F<sub>2</sub> Italian 9803.40 & 951..50 g/colony) and F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan (795.40 & 911.60 g/colony) in the first and second seasons, respectively.

**Table (4):Weight of pollen (g/colony) collected by F<sub>1</sub> and F<sub>2</sub> honey bee hybrids from different plant sources.**

Source	Duration of collection	2005					
		F <sub>1</sub>		%	F <sub>2</sub>		%
		Italian	Carniolan		Italian	Carniolan	
Broad bean	15/1-15/3	800.60b	610.40a	23.76	600.50a	595.00a	0.92
Egyptian clover	15/4-15/6	1100.50b	950.40a	13.64	908.30a	880.50a	3.06
Maize	15/6-15/8	925.40c	810.50b	12.42	803.40b	795.40a	1.00
Total		2826.50	2371.30	49.82	2312.20	2270.90	4.98
Mean		942.17	790.43	16.11	770.73	756.97	1.79
2006							
Broad bean	15/1-15/3	793.50d	700.40a	11.73	751.50c	741.40b	1.34
Egyptian clover	15/4-15/6	1143.30b	993.60a	13.10	1001.40a	991.60a	0.98
Maize	15/6-15/8	975.50d	861.60a	11.68	951.50c	911.60b	4.19
Total		2912.30	2555.60	36.51	2704.40	2644.60	6.51
Mean		970.77	851.87	12.25	901.47	881.53	2.21

In a row, means having the same letter are not significantly different at 5% level.

Data in Tables (3 & 4) revealed highly significant differences in the amount of gathered pollen between F<sub>1</sub> Italian and other hybrids on broad bean, Egyptian clover and maize plants during the first and second seasons. These results are in agreement with the findings of Attalah *et al.* (1989) who found that the total amount of pollen was greatest from Egyptian clover followed by maize and broad bean. Pearson and Braiden (1990), Kassam (2000) and Baum *et al.* (2004) found that F<sub>1</sub> Italian hybrid gathered more amount of pollen than F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan hybrid at New Zealand, Menoufia – Egypt, Texas – USA, respectively.

**4. Royal jelly secretion activity:**

**4.1. Natural secretion:**

Data in Table (5) showed that the largest amount of naturally produced royal jelly was gathered during the period from 15 February until 15 April for all hybrids in the two tested seasons.

F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan hybrid performed more natural royal jelly in the first and second seasons (17.40 & 18.50/colony) compared with F<sub>1</sub> Italian (14.5 & 15.40 g/colony), F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan (13.00 & 14.20 g/colony) and F<sub>2</sub> Italian (12.60 & 13.60 g/colony), respectively. Also, during the periods from 15 April until 15 June, F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan hybrid performed largest amount of royal jelly in both years (14.60 & 15.60 g/colony) compared with F<sub>1</sub> Italian (12.50 & 13.00), F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan (11.40 & 12.60) and F<sub>2</sub> Italian (10.00 & 11.00 g/colony),

respectively. While this hybrid performed lowest amount of royal jelly during the periods from 15 June until 15 August in the first and second seasons. Krol (1985) and Serag El-Dien (2004) indicated that the Carniolan bees was the best in royal jelly secretion. The current results disagree with those of Kassem (2000) who reported that F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan hybrid gave the highest secretion of royal jelly at Menoufiya governorate.

**Table (5): The amounts of royal jelly (g/colony) naturally produced by the F<sub>1</sub> and F<sub>2</sub> hybrids of honeybee.**

Duration of collection	2005				2006			
	F <sub>1</sub>		F <sub>2</sub>		F <sub>1</sub>		F <sub>2</sub>	
	Italian	Carniolan	Italian	Carniolan	Italian	Carniolan	Italian	Carniolan
15/2-15/4	14.50b	17.40c	12.60a	13.00a	15.40b	18.50c	13.60a	14.20a
15/4-15/6	12.50c	14.60d	10.00a	11.40b	13.00b	15.60c	11.00a	12.60b
15/6-15/8	10.40c	12.20d	8.60a	9.40b	11.50b	13.40c	9.00a	10.80b
Total	37.40	44.20	31.2	33.80	39.90	48.50	33.60	36.60
Mean	12.47	14.73	10.40	11.27	13.30	16.17	11.20	12.20

In the same row, means having the same letter are not significantly different at 5% level.

#### 4.2. Artificial secretion:

As indicated in Table (6), F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan honeybees gathered the largest amount of artificial royal jelly (106.0 & 115.60) during the period from 15 April until 15 June compared to other hybrids, F<sub>1</sub> Italian (97.25 & 100.40), F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan (93.40 & 100.00) and F<sub>2</sub> Italian (92.400 & 99.40 g/colony) in the two tested seasons, respectively. Also, during the same period, the analysis of variance recorded significant differences in amount of artificial royal jelly production between F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan and other hybrids. The results of both years revealed that F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan honeybees gathered the lowest amount of artificial royal jelly (93.40 & 96.60) during the period from 15 June until 15 August compared with F<sub>1</sub> Italian (86.4 & 93.60), F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan (83.40 & 93.90) and F<sub>2</sub> Italian (81.60 & 92.60 g/colony), respectively. In 2005, statistical analysis revealed significant differences in the amount of royal jelly during the period from 15 June until 15 August between F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan and other hybrids, F<sub>1</sub> Italian, F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan and F<sub>2</sub> Italian honeybees, while in 2006, there was a significant difference between F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan and F<sub>2</sub> Italian, only in the same period.

**Table (6): The amounts of royal jelly (g/colony) artificially produced by the F<sub>1</sub> and F<sub>2</sub> hybrids of honey/bee.**

Duration of collection	2005				2006			
	F <sub>1</sub>		F <sub>2</sub>		F <sub>1</sub>		F <sub>2</sub>	
	Italian	Carniolan	Italian	Carniolan	Italian	Carniolan	Italian	Carniolan
15/2-15/4	78.20a	79.00a	75.40a	76.40a	73.60ab	75.00b	72.50a	72.50a
15/4-15/6	97.25a	100.00b	92.40a	93.40a	100.40a	115.60b	99.40a	100.00a
15/6-15/8	86.40b	93.40c	81.60a	83.40ab	93.60ab	96.60b	92.60a	93.90ab
Total	261.85	278.40	249.40	253.20	267.60	287.20	264.50	266.40
Mean	87.28	92.80	83.13	84.40	89.20	95.73	88.17	88.80

In the same row, means having the same letter are not significantly different at 5% level.

#### 5. Honey yield production:

Data in Table (7) revealed that F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan produced higher honey yield (6.55 & 6.95 kg/colony) than F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan (5.75 & 7.85), F<sub>1</sub> Italian (5.51

& 5.70) and F<sub>2</sub> Italian (4.55 & 4.95 kg/colony) at the end of clover blooming season, respectively. Also, at the end of cotton blooming season, the honey yields of F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan hybrid was more (8.50 & 8.53 kg/colony) than F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan (7.52 & 7.85), F<sub>1</sub> Italian (7.10 & 7.30) and F<sub>2</sub> Italian hybrid (6.50 & 6.55 kg/colony) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. It was noted that F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan hybrid tended to achieve more sealed honey combs than did F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan, F<sub>1</sub> Italian and F<sub>2</sub> hybrids. On the other hand, F<sub>1</sub> and F<sub>2</sub> Italian hybrids tended to store more nectar in new combs than F<sub>1</sub> and F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan hybrids. In 2005 and 2006 years for clover and cotton blooming seasons, the analysis of variance recorded significant differences in amount of honey yield between F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan hybrid and other honey bee hybrids. Serag El-Dien (2004) found that F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan hybrid was higher in the honey yield (6.50 & 6.25 kg/colony) than Italian hybrid (4.75 & 5.25 kg/colony) at the end of clover blooming season.

**Table (7): The amounts of honey yield (kg/colony) produced by four honey bee hybrids during 2005 and 2006 seasons.**

Season	Crop	Honeybee hybrid			
		F <sub>1</sub>		F <sub>2</sub>	
		Italian	Carniolan	Italian	Carniolan
2005	Clover	5.51b	6.55c	4.55a	5.75b
	Cotton	7.310b	8.50d	6.50a	7.52c
2006	Clover	5.70b	6.95c	4.95a	6.00b
	Cotton	7.30b	8.53d	6.55a	7.85c
Total		25.61	30.53	22.55	27.12
Mean		6.40	7.63	5.64	6.78

In the same row, means having the same letter are not significantly different at 5% level.

From the current results, it could be concluded that the F<sub>1</sub> Italian honeybee performed larger areas of worker brood and greater amounts of propolis and pollen than F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan, F<sub>2</sub> Italian and F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan honeybee. By Contrast F<sub>1</sub> Carniolan produced greater amounts of royal jelly and clover honey yield than F<sub>1</sub> Italian, F<sub>2</sub> Carniolan and F<sub>2</sub> Italian honey bees.

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## دراسة مقارنة على بعض أنشطة ومنتجات هجن نحل العسل الكرينولي والإيطالي

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أجريت هذه الدراسة بقسم بحوث النحل بمحطة البحوث الزراعية بسخا - كفرالشيخ خلال موسمين متتاليين ٢٠٠٥ ، ٢٠٠٦. تم استخدام ٦٠ خلية قسمت إلى ثلاث مجموعات كل مجموعة ٢٠ خلية لدراسة المقارنة بين هجن النحل (الهجين الأول والثاني الإيطالي مع الهجين الأول والثاني الكرينولي على بعض منتجات وأنشطة نحل العسل مثل تربية الحضنة - جمع البروبوليس - جمع غذاء الملكات طبيعيا وصناعيا وإنتاج عسل النحل). ولوضحت الدراسة أن الهجين الأول الإيطالي أعطى أكبر مساحة من حضنة الشغالات عن الهجين الأول الكرينولي والهجين الثاني الإيطالي والهجين الثاني الكرينولي بمتوسطات ١٠٧٩,٩٣ ، ٧٩٢,٧٦ ، ٨٤٧,٤٠ ، ٧٧١,٧٢ بوصة مربعة لكل خلية في الموسم الأول على التوالي. بينما في الموسم الثاني كانت المتوسطات ٩٢٩,٠٨ ، ٧٣٨,٩٦ ، ٧٩٤,٩٥ ، ٧٥٦,٧٩ على التوالي.

وفي حالة حضنة الذكور تفوق الهجين الأول الكرينولي بمتوسطات (١١,٠ ، ٩,٩ بوصة مربعة/خلية) عن الهجين الثاني الكرينولي (٧,٩٦ ، ٧,١٤) ، والهجين الثاني الإيطالي (٧,٠٥ ، ٦,١٧) والهجين الأول الإيطالي (٦,٨٦ ، ٥,١١ بوصة مربعة/خلية) في السنة الأولى والثانية على التوالي.

جمع الهجين الثاني الإيطالي كميات أكبر من البروبوليس (٨,٤٠ ، ٦,٩٥ جرام/خلية) مقارنة بالهجين الثاني الكرينولي (٧,٧٧ ، ٥,٩٩) ، الهجين الأول الإيطالي (٧,٥٦ ، ٦,٦٣) والهجين الأول الكرينولي (٦,٩٨ ، ٤,٥٦ جرام/خلية) في السنة الأولى والثانية على التوالي. قام النحل بتجميع كميات كبيرة من حبوب اللقاح أثناء موسم تزهير البرسيم مقارنة بالذرة والقول البلدي خلال موسمي الدراسة ولظهرت نتائج التحليل الإحصائي أن هناك فروقا معنوية كبيرة بين هجن النحل في تجميع حبوب لقاح القول البلدي ، البرسيم ونباتات الذرة. أنتج الهجين الأول الكرينولي كميات أكبر من غذاء الملكات طبيعيا (١٧,٤٠ ، ١٨,٥٠ جرام/خلية) مقارنة بالهجين الأول الإيطالي (١٤,٥٠ ، ١٥,٤٠ جرام/خلية) ، الهجين الثاني الكرينولي (١٣,٠٠ ، ١٤,٢٠ جرام/خلية) ، والهجين الثاني الإيطالي (١٢,٦٠ ، ١٣,٦٠ جرام/خلية) على التوالي أما بالنسبة لغذاء الملكات المنتج صناعيا تفوق الهجين الأول الكرينولي في جمع غذاء الملكات بمتوسط (١٠٦,٠٠ ، ١١٥,٦٠ جرام/خلية) خلال الفترة من ١٥ أبريل حتى ١٥ يونيو مقارنة بالهجين الأخرى ، الهجين الأول الإيطالي (٩٧,٢٥ ، ١٠٠,٤٠ جرام/خلية) ، الهجين الثاني الكرينولي (٩٣,٤٠ ، ١٠٠,٠٠ جرام/خلية) والهجين الثاني الإيطالي (٩٢,٤٠ ، ٩٩,٤٠ جرام/خلية) أثناء موسمي الاختبار على التوالي. أظهرت النتائج أن الهجين الأول الكرينولي كان الأكثر محصول العسل (٦,٥٥ ، ٦,٩٥ كجم/خلية) مقارنة بالهجين الثاني الكرينولي (٥,٧٥ ، ٧,٨٥ كجم/خلية) ، الهجين الأول الإيطالي (٥,٥١ ، ٥,٧٠ كجم/خلية) والهجين الثاني الإيطالي (٤,٥٥ ، ٤,٩٥ كجم/خلية) عند نهاية موسم تزهير البرسيم على التوالي.

وليسا في موسم تزهير القطن تفوق الهجين الأول الكرينولي (٨,٥٠ ، ٨,٥٣ كجم/خلية) مقارنة بالهجين الأخرى خلال موسمي ٢٠٠٥ ، ٢٠٠٦. يمكن أن نستنتج من الدراسة أن الهجين الأول الإيطالي جاء في المرتبة الأولى في إنتاج الحضنة والبروبوليس وإنتاج حبوب اللقاح متفوقا على الهجين الأول الكرينولي والثاني الإيطالي والثاني الكرينولي لكن الهجين الأول الإيطالي كان أقل من الهجين الثاني الإيطالي في إنتاج البروبوليس ، بينما جاء الهجين الأول الكرينولي متفوقا في إنتاج حضنة الذكور وغذاء الملكات ومحصول عسل القطن والبرسيم عن الهجن الأخرى.