

# Influence of *Bombus terrestris* Larvae on Colony Traffic and Foraging Activities of Workers

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Colony traffic, foraging activity and pollen consumption of bees were studied in laboratory under control conditions at  $25\pm 1^{\circ}\text{C}$  temperature and  $60\pm 10\%$  humidity. In order to observe the workers activity, bee colonies boxes were attached with flight cages ( $30\times 30\times 57\text{cm}$ ) facilitated with tube light of 1640 lux (36 Watts, 3000 KH) and the population of workers was kept equal in all colonies.

Variations were found in all parameters in relation with the number of *B. terrestris* larvae present in colonies. The pollen consumption, colony traffic and flight activity of workers were significantly ( $P<0.05$ ) increased in *B. terrestris* colonies with more larvae compared to the colonies with less or devoid of larvae. These findings suggested that the use of *B. terrestris* colony with higher number of larvae compel workers to go for pollen collection. Therefore, the more colony traffic and workers activity will result in higher pollination and ultimately better crop yield.