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BEEKEEPING PRACTICED BY COMMUNITIES LIVING IN THE TAPAJOS NATIONAL FOREST

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The creation of stingless bees has been configured as an excellent alternative for obtaining superior products and increase the generation of house hold income, however, the activity still needs a lot of attention from research and public policy. This study aimed to characterize the beekeeping practiced in traditional and non traditional communities living in the Tapajos National Forest located in the Lower Amazon, Pará State. There were 22 farmers in the period from April to July 2011, 77.27% of meliponários are located in the riverine communities and the rest lined the BR-163. It was found that 54.55% of breeders aim honey production for own consumption and sell the surplus occasionally produce 31.82% to 13.63% own consumption and marketing of honey and aim nests. Nine species were reared in boxes rustic, rational species *Scaptotrigona* sp.(canudo-amarela) predominated in all meliponários. The rational management techniques are known by most of these creators though the practice does not always occur in a comprehensive and correct.

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