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# ATTRACTIVE BAITS FOR STINGLESS BEE WORKERS (APIDAE, MELIPONINI).

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Bee surveys are important to provide information about species distribution and ecology. But most bee groups can only be captured at flowers or at the nest itself, which is very difficult and laborious in some ecosystems. The aim of this study was to test if materials from stingless bee nests could be used as bait for Meliponini surveys. The experiment was performed between January and April 2012, at Reserva Indígena Turé Mariquita, municipality of Tomé-Açu, Pará State. The survey was repeated in five different areas of 200x50, three times in each area with intervals of 30 days. The following baits were tested: honey; pollen; propolis; wax + cerumen; geopropolis (mixed with water); salt solution. These nest materials were collected from *Melipona* nests. The baits were placed in plastic petri dishes and placed 2 meters from each other, between 8:00h and 12:00h. We collected 167 specimens of eight different species of Meliponini and one of Halictidae (*Augochlorasp.*); *Melipona fasciculata* and *Trigona fulviventris* were the most common bees. The most visited baits (70% of specimens) were honey, pollen and salt solution. Propolis was the less visited bait (5%). We conclude that *Melipona* nest materials can be used as additional tool to Meliponini surveys.

**Apoio:** CAPES, UFRA, EMBRAPA.

**Palavra chave:** inventory – conservation - indian reservation - attractive substance - biodiversity.