

SUMMER POLLEN SOURCES TO *APISDORSATA* HONEYBEES COLLECTED FROM POMBHURNATAHSIL FOREST AREA OF CHANDRAPUR DISTRICT OF MAHARASHTRA STATE (INDIA)

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ABSTRACT

76 pollen loads recovered directly from the honeycombs of *Apis dorsata* (Rock Bee) collected in 13 April 2012 to 10 June 2013 from Chiroli and Bembal forest area of Pombhurna Tahsil of Chandrapur District of Maharashtra State, were analysed. 31 (40.78%) pollen loads were found to be unifloral, 37 (48.68%) bifloral and 8 (10.52%) multifloral. The unifloral pollen loads were contained *Terminalia* sp., *Mangifera indica* and *Albizia lebbek*. The pollen of *Mangifera indica* was recovered from 57 (75%) of the total pollen loads studied. The study highlights *Terminalia* sp. (Combretaceae), *Blumea* sp. (Asteraceae), *Mangifera indica* (Anacardiaceae), *Psidium guajava* (Myrtaceae) as fairly important sources of pollen of the honeybees during the summer period.

KEYWORDS: *Pollen Sources, Honeybee, Pombhurna Tahsil. Forest Area*

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