

CARIBBEAN BEEKEEPING CONGRESS

Aubrey Roberts, Kingdom Apiary Products & Supplies, Guyana



From left, Mr Gladstone Solomon, President, and Mr M K I Hallim, Secretary, of the Association of Caribbean Beekeepers Organisations



Ms Ramona Rajkumar with a display of Guyana's bee products

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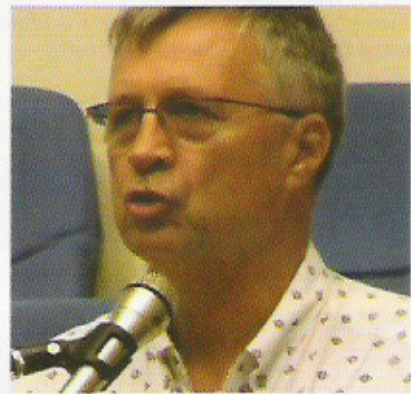
The 5th Caribbean Beekeeping Congress was hosted in Guyana during 10-14 November by Guyana's Ministry of Agriculture, the Guyana Beekeeper's Association (GBA) and the Association of Caribbean Beekeeping Organisations (ACBO). Participants were treated to a Grand Opening at the Guyana Convention Centre by Guyana's Honourable Prime Minister Samuel Hinds. The Honourable Minister for Agriculture, Robert Persaud, eloquently articulated the importance of beekeeping within Guyana's current campaign to *Grow More Food*.

The Congress attracted beekeepers, researchers, scientists, entrepreneurs, students and local media. During the field visits, three



Getting close to Africanised honey bees during the field trip

apiaries were visited. Each apiary was home to Africanised honey bees, present in Guyana for the last 30 years. The bee forage at each of the sites was excellent, and many delegates concluded that Guyana has significant potential for organic beekeeping. A Congress Resolution is to develop a standard for organic honey in the Caribbean, to guide the industry and facilitate trade outside the region.



Professor David de Jong addresses the Congress on the management of Africanised honey bees

The Government of Guyana; The Chairman of the Congress Organising Committee, Mr Michael Welch; Mr Linden Stewart, apiculturist (and the person who convinced Guyana to host the Congress); the planning committee including the GBA and ACBO, along with the various presenters and beekeepers all deserve congratulations for a highly successful and informative Congress.

The 6th Caribbean Beekeeping Congress will take place in Grenada, 8-13 November 2010

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT BEEKEEPING IN THE CARIBBEAN?

A few places are left on the BfD Safari to Trinidad & Tobago, February 2009 - details on our website.