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BEHAVIOR DESCRIPTION OF THE FAUNA ASSOCIATED WITH URUÇU YELLOW

Melipona flavolineata

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The stingless bees have a wide variety of organisms associated with them, such as bacteria, fungi, mites and insects. Although many have already been identified, the relationships between tenants and hosts have been little explored. The objective of this study was to investigate the relationship between Uruçu yellow *Melipona flavolineata* and its tenants. We used two colonies kept in boxes of observation were followed for 60 days, with a frequency of four times a day lasting 15 minutes each. During the study we detected mites, colembolas, blind larvae and beetles. The most mites remaining on the stocks of time waste and feces, about 75% of total observed that the bees store the bottom of the box. The colembolas stayed in places with high humidity at 85% of the observations in parts of the colony where the accumulation of water was visible. The larvae of beetles blind remained predominantly in the stocks of garbage and feces of substrate feeding until they reach the adult stage. It was also noted that these larvae occupied moist and dark places of the colony to develop. The blind beetles were found in all parts of the colony, 30% of observations were noted blind beetles feeding on feces of arthropods and organic matter of the colony. We did not observe aggressive interactions between these organisms and bees. The organisms associated with the colony of this species feed on the waste organic matter within the colony and live in harmony with the bees.

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