

## **Project Update: August 2005**

The Gonerazhou Beekeeping Training Programme, Zimbabwe commenced in February 2005, and to date the following activities have taken place:

Since commencement of the project, ACTA have created a comprehensive beekeeping educational guide for use by trainees in Zimbabwe. The educational guide, containing numerous pictograms and practical hints on beekeeping is the basis for practical apiarist training occurring on-site for the dozen selected local community representatives.

After significant research it was decided that the 'Jackson Long Hive' would be used in Zimbabwe. This model is African designed, badger proof, highly productive and simple to operate. It has been shown through practical experience that the Long Hive has higher rates of success than the conventional Langstroth hive commonly used elsewhere.

The Mahenye Community selected twelve beekeeping trainees in June and training in area commenced July being expected to continue until early September 2005.

To date there has been excellent local community support for beekeeping initiative. ACTA have discovered that this project is the one of the only empowerment projects of any kind operating in the area. The local CAMPFIRE Association have agreed to take 'ownership' and management of the beehives, endorsing the project.