

## Honey Production Performance in Nam Dinh, Vietnam

As a result of capacity building activities and the mobile program of local honey producers in Xuan Thuy National Park, Nam Dinh, there was a significant improvement noted in their production. Total yield of the group reached 500 kg amounting to a total income of 30 million VND in 2008.

### Production Attributes

Income from honey made a dramatic increase due to better yield as well as the higher selling price for honey. It was noted that both internal factors (increased capacity of honey group) and external ones (increased market demand) contribute to sustainability of honey production. As such, the honey group has

brought significant improvements since its establishment in 2004 (Figure 1). These improvements have been made through the support of CORIN-Asia as well as other partners of the Wetlands Alliance.

### Seasonal Variations

In terms of seasonal production, honey produced in a year fluctuates according to weather and availability of flowers. Honey producers noted that spring time (March to May) is the best season for bees and honey yield while winter (December to February) leads to low yield for honey bee farmers (Figure 2). This reflects the dependence of honey production on flowering seasons. During spring time, bees can

utilize abundant pollen resources from fruit trees in communes and around the flowering mangroves of XTNP and this process are carried on from June to September through the group's 'mobile program' or moving the bee cages to the mangrove areas.

This development indicate that capacities built for the honey producers in terms of group collaboration, technology transfer, improved management structure, and coordination with relevant stakeholders like the local People's Committee, XTNP, the Wetlands Alliance and other local partners have led to significant improvements among the communes in Nam Dinh.

Figure 1. Honey Production Performance in Selected Communes of Nam Dinh (2004 – 2008)

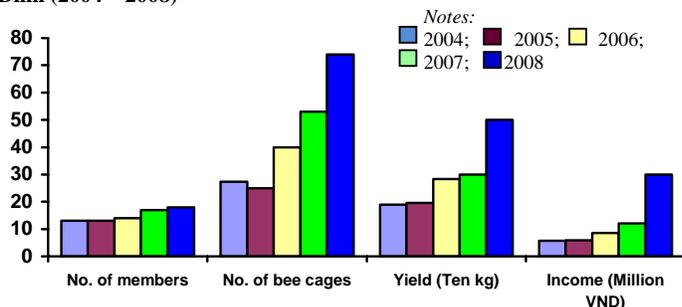


Figure 2. Honey Yield Comparison in kg (2007 and 2008)

