

NATIVE BEEKEEPING AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF FOREST GARDEN SYSTEMS

Empowering Regenerative Agriculture + Peace

Date/Duration

15 - 19 February, 2019

For participants we will meet up morning of 15th and return to Chiang Mai late afternoon of 19th

Cost & Further information

The cost will be US\$368 per participant including lodging, meals and local transportation from Chiangmai to the training venue.

For further information, please visit or send email to:

<http://www.goorganics.org/upcoming-event/>

beekeeping_workshop@goorganics.org

Expected Weather

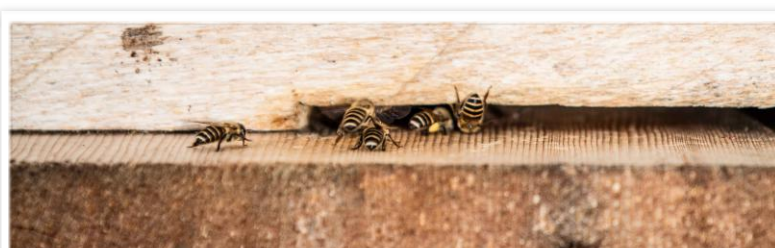
The cool season in Thailand runs from December to March and North Thailand in general is much cooler. Rainfall in February is expected to be less but being high up in the mountain, local weather can be difficult to predict. Average Temperature during that time may range from 10° C or lower to as high as 24-26° C.



The Workshop

This course will focus on the basics of how to raise the native honeybee (*Apis cerana*)- Thai "Pheung Prong" which have been raised in Asia for 1000's of years and are very well-adapted and resilient here compared to European honeybees (*Apis mellifera*).

While encouraging the traditional Asian beekeeping methods in many ways, Katrina Klett and her husband He Guoqing, who live in Yunnan, China and have been operating a social enterprise Elevated Honey Co., will be sharing their knowledge in combining the long cultural knowhow of native beekeepers with more modern but simple appropriate technology to increase honey production, quality, and bee health. This has meant better livelihoods for the local





Teaching Language

English/Thai/Chinese

This course will be both in English and Thai.

The lead trainer Katrina Klett will teach in English. However as we will involve both local beekeepers from our host and other native beekeeper from the North, in order to facilitate both to learn from them and for them to learn from Katrina and others, we will provide interpretation from English- Thai- English.

Both trainers will be able to speak Chinese when there is a need.

About *Apis cerena*

Apis cerena is a type of bee native throughout Thailand and much of Asia and can live from lowlands (sea level) to as high altitudes as 3,200 m.

For more information:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apis_cerana

farmers who also become more active custodians of the local ecologies their bees depend on. Consumers are then able to purchase pure guaranteed quality native bee honey.

The course will take place in the village of Ban Huay Krai, at over 1000 meters. This village has a similar tradition of caring for *Apis cerena*. It is also part of the Organic Forest Coffee Project where villagers practice organic forest gardening with coffee as their key crop. It has 2 ethnic communities living side by side, Karen and Thai (northern Thais) and is very rich culturally and in knowledge of and relationship with their surrounding forest.

This course is appropriate both for beginners interested to learn the arts of native beekeeping and to integrate these bees into their farming/ gardening systems. It is also appropriate for those who have started to learn beekeeping whether with *Apis cerena* or another species and want to learn from very knowledgeable experts as to how to do this better with simple techniques and practices. In addition it will be a rich experience to learn about an organic forest gardening system and some of the many ecological relationship including the role of native bees.



Workshop Venue

The course will take place in the village of Ban Huay Krai, at over 1000 meters. This village has a similar tradition of caring for *Apis cerana*. It is also part of the Organic Forest Coffee Project and the villager practice organic forest gardening with coffee as the key understory crop. The village has 2 ethnic communities living side by side, Karen and Thai (northern Thais) and is very rich culturally and in knowledge of and relationship with their surrounding forest.



How to enrol

To facilitate maximum hands-on learning, the workshop will only facilitate a small group of learners. Successful application will be based on total fee deposit received. Application exceeding the maximum intake will be placed onto waiting list.

Send email to "beekeeping_workshop@goorganics.org" or visit <http://www.goorganics.org/upcoming-event/> for more information.

About the trainers

Katrina Klett was raised by a migratory beekeeping family in the United States. From the time she was small, she traveled with her family between North Dakota, Texas, and California. They produced honey, bred queen bees, and pollinated almonds. Growing up in this community gave Katrina a strong passion about issues facing beekeepers and honeybees. As an adult, Katrina has worked in many countries around the world using beekeeping as a tool for rural development. She has trained hundreds of farmers and helped them to earn a better living in their home villages through beekeeping. To better achieve this end, in 2014 she co-founded a honey company called Elevated Honey Co. Elevated Honey Co is growing rural livelihoods in China through a more transparent and connected honey supply chain between traditional rural beekeepers and urban Chinese consumers. In addition to her role as company director, Katrina is finishing up graduate studies in chemical ecology at the Chinese Academy of Science.



He Guoqing (last name He) is a local minority farmer/beekeeper from Yunnan Province in China. He has been keeping honeybees in a sustainable manner in the mountains of Yunnan for more than 8 years. He has adopted many of the modern methods while finding many innovative ways to maintain traditional beekeeping that is suitable for the Asian honeybee in mountainous regions. As a beekeeper leader in his region, he works with many farmers to help them improve their skillsets in beekeeping, produce cleaner honey, and to comply with the strict quality standards required by Elevated Honey Co. He speaks 5 minority languages that are common in the region and is committed to making a meaningful contribution to beekeepers and honeybees in SW China.

About the facilitator - Michael B Commons



With over 10 years as coordinator of Earth Net Foundation's Rice Chain Project building the capacity of farmers organizations, NGOs, and social entrepreneurs from South and Southeast Asia in organic rice production, guarantee systems, quality management, fair trade marketing, and resilience, Michael practices organic agro-forestry + self-reliance with his family in Chachoengsao, Thailand, and is an active member of the Thai Permaculture network and the Agricultural Biodiversity Community.

About Elevated Honey & Co



Elevated Honey Co. is a social enterprise cofounded by Katrina and her husband Guoqing in 2014. The objective of the enterprise is to improve rural livelihoods in China by creating a more transparent and connected honey supply chain between traditional rural beekeepers with urban Chinese consumers.

Local partner: Mivana Co Ltd



บริษัท มีวนา จำกัด
MIVANA Co., Ltd.

We are very grateful to have Mivana Co Ltd as our local partner. Mivana Co Limited is a social enterprise that grows and distributes organic Arabica coffee. Their organic shade-grown coffee is the fruit of 325 small-scale farming families working an area of over 8,000 rai in the watershed forests of Mae Lao, Mae Saruay and Mae Korn districts in Thailand's Chiang Rai province. Without Mivana's local support in advising and sharing their knowledge, this workshop will not be possible.

About GO Organics



GO Organics is a social enterprise based in Thailand. We enable small holder farmers and producers going towards regenerative agricultural practice by sharing with them knowledges of innovative technologies and creating an effective market place for them in selling their organic produce.

For further information

GO Organics Co Ltd

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