

Hello friends and fellow keepers!

# So Much More Than Honey

We all know that honey is the most common product of the honeybee. We also know that honey has just as many uses as it has benefits. However, bees also make several other products that derive from pollen grains, nectars, and other plant materials alone or mixed with the bee salivary gland secretions and plant secretions. Individually these products have different nutraceutical and medical applications within our current lifestyle and have several uses, for both bees and humans, as foods, sealants, lubricants, construction material, and medications.

**Bee Pollen:** Claimed to lower cholesterol, reduce hardening of the arteries (atherosclerosis), improve metabolism, and increase hormone levels. It may also reduce depression, and ease bleeding problems.

**Propolis:** Given that propolis' function is to support beehive sterility and health, the protective properties of the bioactive compounds found in propolis can provide significant benefits for human health. It isn't tasty like honey, but it offers more health benefits. Containing over 500 bioactive molecules such as antibacterial, anti-fungal, anti-viral, anti-inflammatory, anticancer and antioxidant properties.

**Bee Bread:** Bee bread is a natural product obtained from the fermentation of bee pollen mixed with bee saliva and flower nectar inside the honeycomb cells of a hive. Bee bread contains micro- and macroelements, a lot of iron and vitamins. It has an immunizing effect, but also has a beneficial effect on reducing blood sugar and cholesterol.

**Royal Jelly:** This milk-like substance is produced by worker bees as nourishment for queen bees and their young. It is rich in pantothenic acid (a vitamin substance that aids in metabolizing fats and carbohydrates) and also contains vitamin B6. It is used in cosmetics as facial creams but claims of its rejuvenating properties have not been substantiated.

**Beeswax:** Beeswax has a very rich history with a far wider range of uses than any other bee product. Historically, beeswax was especially valued for candles, because it has a higher melting point than many other waxes, therefore remaining upright in hot weather. Beeswax was also used for modeling and for casting bronze statues and gold ornaments. One of the most important current uses of beeswax is in ointments, emollient skin creams, and lotions. It is also used in polishes and other protective coatings, and as a lubricant in the armament and other industries. Also, because of its dielectric properties, it is used in electrical engineering.

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### STUFF YOU'RE GOING TO WANT TO KNOW ABOUT



<u>ASMB</u> December Meeting Charlotte Hall Veteran's Home Check site for date, 9am - 12pm

Kris Kringle Christmas Market December 8-10th, Charles County Fairgrounds

#### Suttler Post Farm's Annual Holiday Open House benefitting Hospice of St. Mary's

December 9 & 10, 11am - 4pm

#### DeezWarmBeez Winter Hive Wraps for Sale

Custom made wraps for winter warmth in the hives. Helps protect from wind and rain and hold in radiant heat. Pulls over the outside of each hive fits double deeps and smaller

### Class Dates at Deez's Apiary

- Scaling Back for the Winter TBD
- Making Products from My Hive 11/12

**Bee Venom**: Bee venom contains the peptides apamin and adolapin. Although they act as toxins, they have been shown to possess antiinflammatory and pain-relieving properties to those with rheumatoid arthritis. Multiple skincare companies have started adding bee venom to products like serums and moisturizers as a way to reduce inflammation and wrinkles.



