

DESCRIPTIVE STUDY OF A BEE FARM DEDICATED TO QUEEN PRODUCTION IN JAIME PRATS (SAN RAFAEL, MENDOZA, ARGENTINA)

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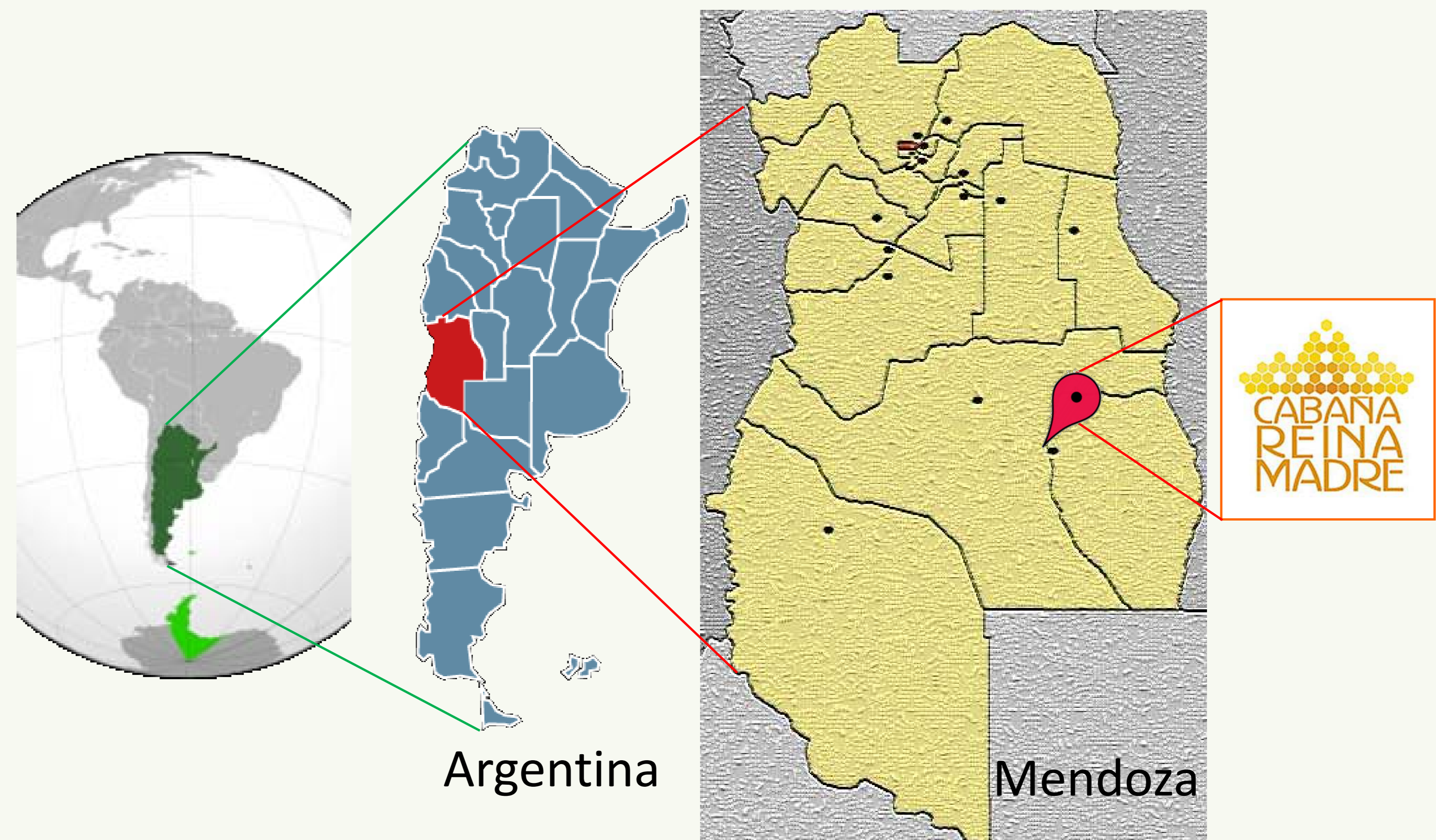
Abstract (Resumen)

The vegetation, climate and sanitary characteristics of Mendoza (Argentina) distinguish the province as an ideal location for the production of nuclei, packages and queens. A healthy amount of producers oriented to queen production for both domestic and international markets is found in this region. Even though general features are shared throughout the region, it offers some unique characteristics with regard to the work of each queen producer due to the subtle diversity of the province's ecosystems and other human factors. **A descriptive study of the primary characteristics of a Mendoza queen producer's bee farm (case study)** may later aid a comparative study to profile the characteristics of this particular area of bee farming in the region. This study analyzes a bee farm located in Jaime Prats (San Rafael, Mendoza, Argentina). The work was performed by a Breeders' Association technician and the beekeepers responsible for the bee farm. The methodology used comprised an interview based upon a standardized questionnaire together with information obtained in at least two visits to the bee farm over more than one season. This information was organized in diagrams and graphics that allow an easy and intuitive way of recognizing the main characteristics of queen production at the bee farm studied.

Identification and location (Identificación y localización)

Cabaña Reina Madre

Inaugurated in Inaugurada en	2009
Location Ubicación	Jaime Prats, San Rafael, Mendoza, Argentina.
Distance to Mendoza city Distancia a la ciudad de Mendoza	244 Km.
Distance to Buenos Aires city Distancia a la ciudad de Buenos Aires	865 Km.



Some pictures (Algunas imágenes)



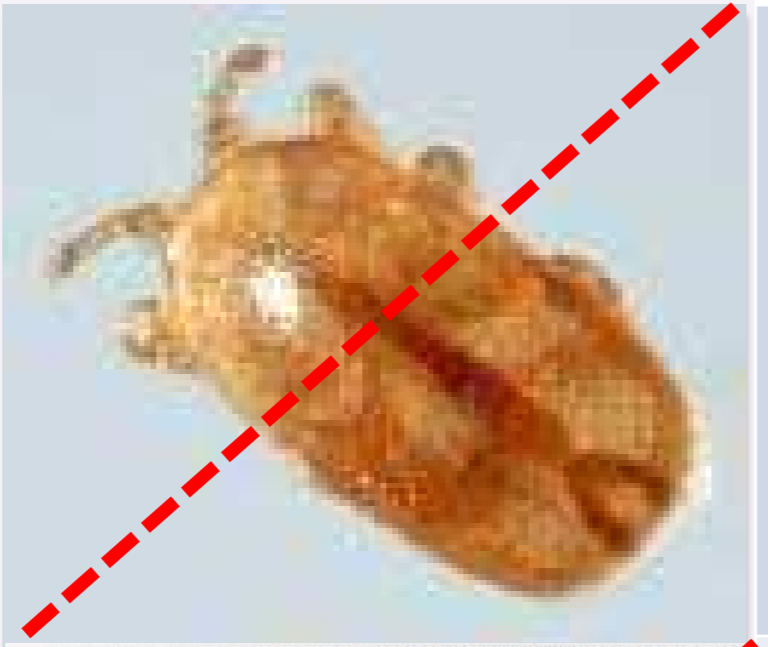
Queen cells - Celdas reales ↑



Mating apiary - Apiario de fecundación ↑↓



Sanitary status (Estatus sanitario)

	Argentina	Mendoza	Cabaña Reina Madre
			Free of clinical evidence. No identification of causal agent. Enfermedad y agente causal nunca observados.
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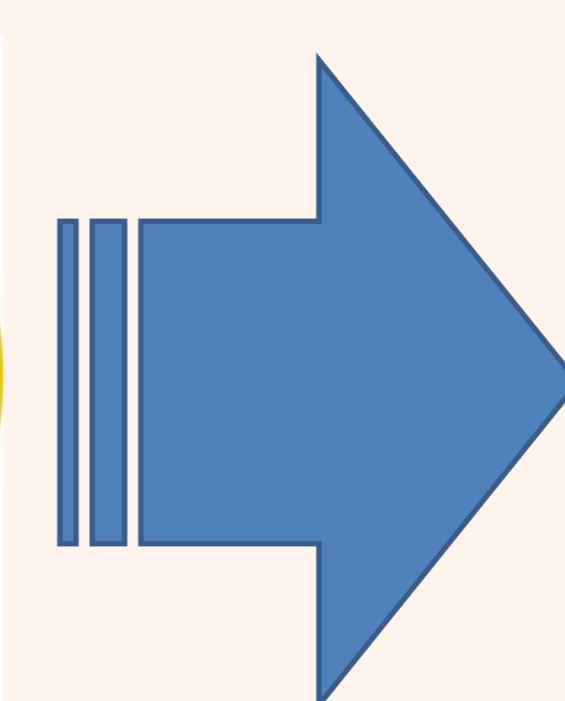
Production data (Información de la producción)

Products Productos	Selected Queens - Queen Cells - Bee Packages - Nuclei Reinas seleccionadas - Celdas Reales - Paquetes - Núcleos
Production Producción	3,500 Queens September – March 3.500 Reina Septiembre – Marzo
Target Objetivo	Select queens genetically resistant to diseases reducing chemical treatments in order to avoid contamination of hive products. Evitar la fármaco dependencia seleccionando reinas resistentes a enfermedades y reduciendo al máximo la utilización de químicos de síntesis.

Associative participation (Participación en organizaciones asociativas)

Regional Queen Bee Breeders Association
from Mendoza, Argentina

Asociación Mendocina de Criadores de Abejas Reinas (AMCAR)



Bee breeding program in a geographically isolated drone congregation area

Programa de selección genética en una zona de fecundación geográficamente aislada