

**PHYSICOCHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF STINGLESS BEE
HONEY FROM *Heterotrigona itama* sp.**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	iv
LIST OF TABLES	vi
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	vii
ABSTRACT	viii
ABSTRAK	ix
CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION	
1.1 Background of study	1
1.2 Problem statement	3
1.3 Significance of study	4
1.4 Objectives of study	5
CHAPTER 2 LITERATURE REVIEW	
2.1 Stingless bees	6
2.2 Pollination by stingless bees	7
2.3 Nest structure of stingless bees	7
2.4 <i>Heterotrigona itama sp.</i> as an alternative pollination to plant	8
2.5 Foraging behaviour of <i>Heterotrigona itama sp.</i>	8
2.6 Physicochemical characteristics of stingless bees	9
CHAPTER 3 METHODOLOGY	
3.1 Instruments	12
3.2 Materials	12
3.3 Honey sample	12
3.4 Method	13
3.4.1 pH	13
3.4.2 Ash content	13
3.4.3 Colour intensity	14
3.4.4 Total acidity	14
3.4.5 Moisture content	14
CHAPTER 4 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	
4.1 The physicochemical characteristics of stingless bee honey	15
CHAPTER 5 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	19
CITED REFERENCES	20

APPENDICES
CURRICULUM VITAE

24
30

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Caption	Page
4.1.1	The pH value for <i>H. itama sp.</i> (n=3).	15
4.1.2	The ash content value for <i>H. itama sp.</i> (n=3).	16
4.1.3	The total acidity value for <i>H. itama sp.</i> (n=3).	16
4.1.4	The colour intensity for <i>H. itama sp.</i>	17
4.1.5	The moisture content for <i>H. itama sp.</i> (n=3).	18

ABSTRACT

PHYSICOCHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF STINGLESS BEE FROM *Heterotrigona itama* sp.

The purpose of this study is to investigate the physicochemical characteristics of Malaysian stingless bee honey from *Heterotrigona itama* species. The aim of this study is to provide as much information about stingless bees and can be used by subsequent researchers to conduct more analysis of stingless bees. Several parameters have been performed to obtain data on the physicochemical characteristics of stingless bee from *Heterotrigona itama* species. The physicochemical characteristics were pH, ash content, total acidity, color intensity, and moisture content. Honey produced by *Heterotrigona itama* sp. is taken randomly from five different logs. The results reveal the pH values of stingless bees are range 3.32 ± 0.01 to 3.60 ± 0.01 which is known as acidic. The colour intensity ranged from 35-50 mm Pfund (extra light amber). The ash content and acidity value of stingless bee honey samples ranged from 0.127 ± 0.061 to 0.413 ± 0.022 g/100g and 109 ± 7.81 to 135 ± 8.66 meq/kg. The moisture content ranged from 23.00 ± 0.50 to 26.83 ± 0.29 %. Clearly, honey produced by a stingless bee from *Heterotrigona itama* sp. has similar physicochemical characteristics although the honey sample taken from different places.