

Introduction

The Western honey bee, *Apis mellifera*, is a vital pollinator responsible for the reproduction of numerous plant species and the production of honey. The health and productivity of honey bee colonies rely on the availability of high-quality pollen sources, which serve as the primary protein component of their diet [1-3]. Pollen provides essential nutrients that are crucial for the growth, development, and overall physiological functioning of honey bees. However, the composition of pollen can vary significantly depending on the plant species, which can have a profound impact on the physiology of *Apis mellifera* workers [4, 5].

The protein content of pollen plays a crucial role in the nutrition and well-being of honey bees. Proteins are vital for honey bee development, as they are involved in critical processes such as larval growth, metamorphosis, and the production of glandular secretions.

