

# The Honey Colony

Bees and Trees



the honey colony



# Preparation for the harvest

Before entering the winter months, beekeepers start dividing the hives. This means dividing a colony in half and placing a new queen in one of the halves, while the other queen remains in charge of the second half. The goal of this is to strengthen the hives, after the Australian winter (June - August), so that they can focus on single-flowered honeys that bloom later in the year.



To strengthen the hives, beekeepers take the bees to the early spring flowers and let them collect as much nectar as they can to bring back to the hives. This initial honey that the bees produce is commonly known and sold as "wildflower honey." There is no particular tree that beekeepers focus on during this time. The only focus is to make sure the hives grow as strong as possible before the single-flowered seasons begin and the focus changes to Red Gum, Jarrah and Karri honey.

# Marri Tree (Red Gum)

Latin Name:	Corymbia Calophylla (früher Eucalyptus Calophylla)
Also Known as:	Red Gum, Bloodwood Tree
Classification:	Corymbia
Family:	Myrtaceae, Myrte
Origin:	In untouched, non-commercial forests in southwestern Western Australia.
Description:	Up to 40-60 meters high, with a large spreading crown and rough bark. Marri is a word of the Noongar language (Australian aborigines) and means blood. It describes the black resin that oozes from wounds in the bark. Native birds such as parrots and cockatoos enjoy eating the large seeds of the Marri tree. In late summer, strong-smelling creamy white, pink or red flowers bloom, attracting bees and birds. Long roots allow the tree to reach deep water deposits during long droughts.
Use:	Originally mainly used for furniture, lumber and wooden tools. Today, more and more for the extraction of highly antimicrobial honey.
Honey:	Marri Honig hat einen leichten Karamellgeschmack mit einem Hauch von Weihnachtsgewürzen und eine sehr hohe antimikrobielle Wirkung. Labortests bestätigen, dass er weder Pestizide noch Antibiotika enthält.



# Karri Tree



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Latin Name: Eucalyptus diversicolor

Classification: Eucalyptus

Family: Myrtaceae, Myrte

Origin: In untouched, non-commercial forests in southwestern Western Australia

Description: Ranging from 60 – 80 meters in height with a large spreading crown and mottled bark, the carry tree can reach an age of up to 300 years. Native birds enjoy eating the barrel-shaped woody fruits of the Karri tree. Depending on the tree, white flowers bloom in January, May, August and December, attracting bees and birds. Long roots allow the tree to reach deep water deposits during long droughts.

Use: Originally mainly used for furniture, lumber and wooden tools. Today, more and more for the extraction of highly antimicrobial honey.

Honey: Karri honey has a delicious, light caramel flavor and a very high antimicrobial effect. Laboratory tests confirm that our honey does not contain pesticides or antibiotics.



# Jarrah Tree

Lateinischer Name:	Eucalyptus Marginata
Also Known as:	Swan River Mahogany und Djarraly (Noongar language of the aborigines of Australia)
Classification:	Eucalyptus
Family:	Myrtaceae, Myrte
Origin:	In untouched, non-commercial forests in southwestern Western Australia between Albany in the south and Gingin north of Perth.
Description:	The tree can grow up to 50 meters high with a long straight trunk that can have a diameter of up to 3 meters. This tree is a natural habitat for many native animals. The oldest Jarrah tree is 500 years old and is located in Manjimup. The leaves form a shady canopy that spreads in all directions. The tree has strong smelling, creamy white flowers that attract bees and birds. The Jarrah tree blooms only every other year, so the availability of Jarrah honey is often limited. Long roots allow the tree to reach deep water deposits during long droughts.
Use:	Originally mainly used for furniture, lumber and wooden tools. Today, more and more for the extraction of highly antimicrobial honey.
Honey:	Jarrah honey has a unique nutty malt flavour and one of the highest antimicrobial activity and antioxidant content of any Australian Honey. Laboratory tests confirm that it does not contain pesticides or antibiotics.

