



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	American Journal of Experimental Agriculture
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJEA_21811
Title of the Manuscript:	Honeybees (Apis mellifera) produce honey from flowers of tea plants (Camellia sinensis)
Type of the Article	Short Research Article

General guideline for Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound.

To know the complete guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

(<http://www.sciencedomain.org/page.php?id=sdi-general-editorial-policy#Peer-Review-Guideline>)



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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Compulsory REVISION comments	Itroduction – it is chaotic in citation type . L 14 – citation by author name L 15 citation by ??? number L. 15 physiological functions of tea flowers have been reported – what function for human physiology – give more details, please L.16 natural healthy material. – for what kind of diseases?? L19 in autumn, many tea fields are filled with blooming flowers – where are such fields ?? all over the world??? Give more details, please L. 21 Who died?? Correct the English The authors should give more information why theanine and other compounds are worth to study The aim of the study is not clear. L.45 – nectar ... was collected by pipettes from the stamen and pistil roots – be more specific – It is not clear how the nectar was collected??? From what flower part?? Why it was collected after blooming?? How much flowers was used, what was the flower age??? L 48-55 – the procedude, how the nectar or honey was collecte for chromatography purpose is not described, see Antoń S., Denisow B. 2014. Nectar production and carbohydrate composition across floral sexual phases: contrasting patterns in two protandrous <i>Aconitum</i> species (Delphinieae, Ranunculaceae). Flora 209(9): 464-470. DOI: 10.1016/j.flora.2014.07.001	Regarding citations (L14 and 15); Authors corrected the citations. Regarding L15; Physiological functions of tea flowers were added in the introduction. Regarding L16; Authors revised the sentence. Regarding L19; Authors added the more information in the manuscript. Regarding L21; Authors corrected the sentence. The reason for the importance of theanine and other compounds in the study; As authors described in the manuscript, theanine is a rare and a specific amino acid of tea plants, and the detection of theanine is a most reliable way to indicate that the honey was actually derived from the tea flowers. Authors cited ref.8. Catechin and caffeine are the main ingredients of a tea plant. Authors cited ref. 1. Caffeine is the key ingredient to attract honeybees. Authors described in the manuscript. The aim of the study; to investigate whether the honeybees collected tea nectar to produce honey as authors mentioned. Regarding L45; The nectar was collected just after



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	Methods – the authors should employ statistical methods to check difference between the content of analysed substances between nectar and honey. Discussion L 65 Honeybees, especially, <i>Apis mellifera</i> L., tend to collect the nectar of a single species of flower, such as acacia and lotus.- Usually <i>Apis mellifera</i> collect nectar from more other plants, so give more explanation for type of forage plants in the study area L 67 Wright et al. – be precise – citation by name or number of the reference L 69 – (9,10) – bracket L 73 Sharma et al. – correct citation The year or the reference number L83 - we conclude that nectar is not toxic to honeybees – did you study honeybee behavior, to conclude that nectar of tea flowers is not toxic. You just studied only the tianine and other compound content in nectar and honey. The statement it unjustified. L85 might lead to the creation of a new tea industry – in which way??? Explain.	blooming (n=4). This is the best way to collect the tea nectar in quality and quantity by hydroponics. Authors revised the material and methods section. Regarding L48-55; Authors normally use chromatography to detect the ingredient of a tea plant, so the reference was added in the manuscript. Regarding method; Author added statistical analysis section in the method and showed the difference in the table. Regarding L65; There were several forage plants, but no plants including theanine in the study area around the beehives. Author revised the manuscript. Regarding L67, 69,73; Authors corrected. Regarding L83; Authors deleted the sentence “we conclude that nectar is not toxic to honeybees”. Regarding L85; Authors revised the manuscript.
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	There is a lot of errors. See above	Authors revised the manuscript as reviewer’s comment.
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	In general, the study it not sufficiently explained. It is chaiotic and need a lot of work before publishing.	Authors believe that the manuscript is enough to show the honey derived from tea flowers, but the discussion was revised as reviewer’s comment.