

CHAPTER - 8

CONCLUSIONS

A. dorsata nest sites are repeatedly occupied by unrelated colonies. It suggests that when swarms entering into a new area or the area that used to occupy by the previous colonies before, that are identified successful by the presence of old combs. Combs may also help to generate aggregating of colonies that may adaptive.

Aggregation is an adaptive, but not a competitive. Therefore. aggregated colonies on a single support are the groups of related and unrelated family members. The unrelated colonies are nested closer with unrelated colonies validated the swarms preference a short distance hypothesis (Joycox and Parise, 1980, 1981; Seeley, 1985) whereas the related colonies were nested part from related colonies validated the outbreeding hypothesis (Oldroyd et al., 1996) by minimal time requirement for searching diverse drones congregation area by queens (Koeniger et al., 1994). Aggregations form a concrete nucleus of mutual defense (Lindauer, 1956)

A. dorsata colonies frequently change their nest sites base on abiotic factors or seasonal changes. This seasonal migratory mechanism allows *A. dorsata* to survive and enable them to exploit newly available resources. In the process of migration *A. dorsata* does not only exploit new resource, but also minimize predator-parasite pressures. However, if colonies are not disturbed by predators or infested by parasitic mites than harsh environmental factors, for instance low ambient temperature, high wind speed etc. induced migration.