

Life Cycle of the Bee

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Developmental cycle:

Type	Egg	Larva	Cell capped	Pupa	Average developmental period (Days until emergence)	Start of fertility	Body length	Hatching weight
Queen	up to day 3	up to day 8½	day 7½	day 8 until emergence	16 days	day 23 and up	18–22 mm	nearly 200 mg
Worker	up to day 3	up to day 9	day 9	day 10 until emergence (day 11 or 12 last molt)	21 days	N/A	12–15 mm	nearly 100 mg
Drone	up to day 3	up to day 9½	day 10	day 10 until emergence	24 days	about 38 days	15–17 mm	nearly 200 m

Food Source by day:

Days	Developmental state	Weight	Length	Food source
1	egg	0.132 mg	1.2mm	Yolk
2	egg	not listed		Yolk
3	egg	0.09 mg		yolk
4	larva	not listed		royal jelly
5	larva	3.4 mg		royal jelly
6	larva	33.3 mg		royal jelly/honey and pollen (bee bread)
7	larva	100.1 mg		honey and pollen (bee bread)
8	larva	134.5 mg		honey and pollen (bee bread)
9	larva	155.2 mg		honey and pollen (bee bread)

Task of Worker by Age:

<i>Days after emergence</i>	<i>Task</i>
1-2	clean cells and wam the brood nest
3-5	feed older larvae with honey and pollen
6-10	feed youger larvae with products of the head glands
11-18	ripen nectar, produce wax and construct comb
19-21	guard and ventilate the hive, take exercise and orientation flights to learn to fly and locate the hive
22+	forage for nectar, pollen, water or propolis