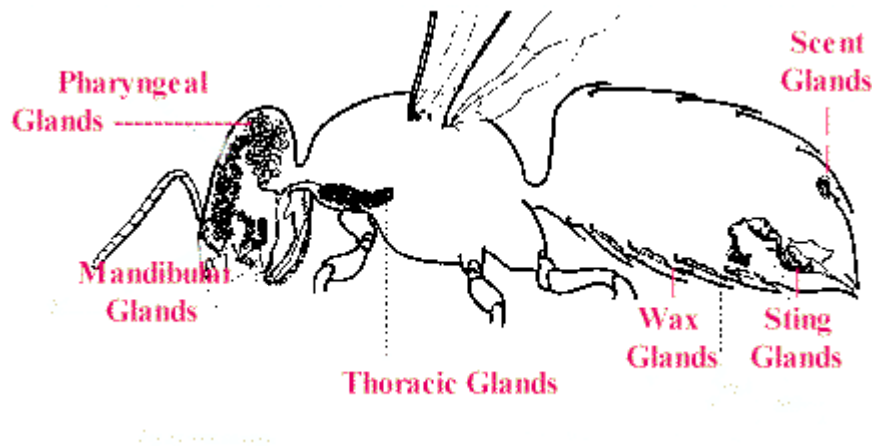


The Exocrine Glands of the Female Worker Bee



Pharyngeal glands -- Located in the head -- These glands are the largest glands in the worker honey bee. These glands produce the bee milk fed to young larva.

Mandibular glands -- Located in the head -- These glands produce some of the different ingredients of the saliva, which in turn makes up the main lipid content of larval food.

Thoracic glands -- A set of glands in the thorax derived from the cocoon-spinning gland of the larva. They are well developed in workers, queens and drones. They are said to secrete an alkaline fatty substance.

Wax glands -- The wax glands are located on the underside of the abdomen of segments four to seven. These glands secrete wax in liquid form onto the wax plates and harden into wax scales which are then used by the bees to construct comb.

Nasonov Scent gland -- This is a gland located at the very rear of the bee above the sting. Bees usually will expose the ducts in this gland with the abdomen elevated and fan its wings. The pheromone produced attracts other bees. It is often observed clearly when bees are landing in a swarm. The bees which already have landed will be seen with the gland exposed attracting other bees to the location.

Sting gland -- The sting gland releases an alarm pheromone which attracts other bees to the site where the alarm is given. This pheromone is used "to mark an enemy and make it a more obvious target."