

A number of practices were common on numerous farms we visited. These included aviaries (bee keeping), vermiculture (worms) and biogas.



Bees were kept and honey produced
at a number of farms we visited.



The commercial area for honey production at Finca Marta.



Fernandito Funes at Finca Marta introduced the students to stingless bees (meliponines) and honey.





Inside the bee hive.

A close look at the
hive shows the
honeycomb and the
receptacles for
collected pollen.



One bee acts as
the gatekeeper
for the hive.

Although
stingless, the bees
can bite to defend
the hive.



Fernando said the tricky part about bee tending was when they swarm. While we were visiting another farm there was an unexpected swarm!



At El Retiro project, they had a different kind of bee hive.





Worms cultivation (vermiculture) was a part of most farms we visited.



Worms were used for
developing vermicompost.

This farm used a
traditional shade structure.



This farm had the worm cultivation under a tree canopy and used metal hoops covered with muslin cloth for shade.



Vermicompost



Biogas is produced as a heating source on the farm from animal manure.



Animal shelter with solar panels.



Inside the animal shelter.



Manure is washed out of the animal shelter.



Manure collection pits.

