Honey, I want to eat you up !!!

The taste of flesh is fancied by many of us. But wait, we have a like-minded companion in the bee world too! Vulture bees are the only carnivorous, obligate necrophagus bees reported to date which use carrion as their sole protein source. They own extremely sharp jaws which aids them to tear apart their meal. These scavenger, stingless, eusocial bees of genus *Trigona,* primarily three representatives *T. hypogea*, *T. necrophaga* and *T. crassipes,* are the only known bees which do not rely on plants as food source. The worker bees masticate the carrion, secret saliva or mandibular secretion (honey-like concoction of fruit juices) on the flesh to hydrolyze and consume it. On returning to the hive, this meat slurry is regurgitated and processed by other worker bees with their own unique digestive enzymes breaking it down into a decay-resistant glandular substance. This meat-mead mixture is then stocked in honeypots and used to feed the hive population over long periods. These bees have completely forsaken pollen gathering – the workers don't own pollen combs on their legs. However, it is advised not to collect this honey as vulture bees store only required amount of it to sustain their hives, unlike common honeybees who are abundant producers.

Source: reddit.com, Roubik DW 1982
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