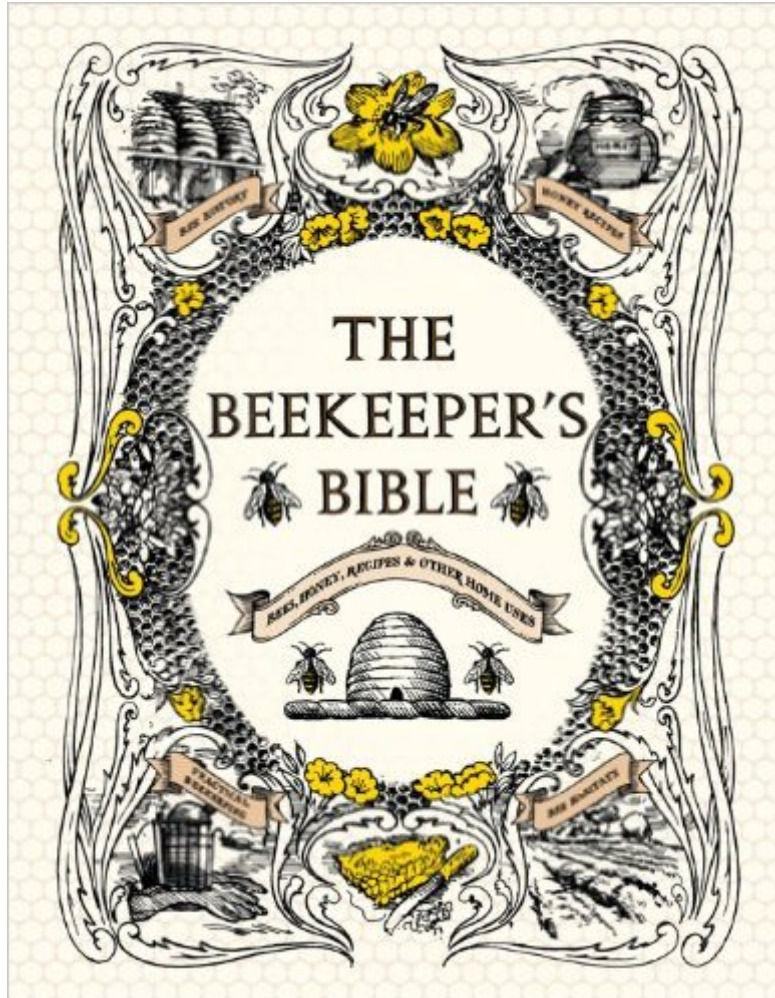


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The Beekeeper's Bible: Bees, Honey, Recipes & Other Home Uses



Synopsis

The Beekeeper's Bible is as much an ultimate guide to the practical essentials of beekeeping as it is a beautiful almanac to be read from cover to cover. Part history book, part handbook, and part cookbook, this illustrated tome covers every facet of the ancient hobby of beekeeping, from how to manage hives safely to harvesting one's own honey, and ideas for how to use honey and beeswax. Detailed instructions for making candles, furniture polish, beauty products, and nearly 100 honey-themed recipes are included. Fully illustrated with how-to photography and unique etchings, any backyard enthusiast or gardener can confidently dive into beekeeping with this book in hand (or daydream about harvesting their own honey while relaxing in the comfort of an armchair). Praise for The Beekeeper's Bible: "Jones and Sweeney-Lynch explain the science and society of bees in clear, accessible language. And the recipes are admirably useful: honey scones, honey soap, honey hangover cures. 'Oh, stuff and fluff,' as Pooh might say. Dip a paw into this richly satisfying volume and you won't have to do stoutness exercises." -The New York Times "Lip-smackin' throughout, The Beekeeper's Bible is, at its heart, a glorious invitation into the depths of the honeybee hive." -Chicago Tribune "An elegant, information-packed addition to the library of the most serious beekeeper." -Better Homes & Gardens Country Gardens "An amazing compendium of information, lore, facts, tips, techniques, and benefits of having bees in your life - whether you choose to keep a hive yourself, enjoy the by-products, or just appreciate these wonderful creatures for all that they contribute to our human ecosystem." -About.com

Book Information

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> Natural Foods

Customer Reviews

My husband and I were lucky enough to capture and hive a swarm this spring, launching us unexpectedly into beekeeping. My sister has kept bees, and we'd always thought of doing it, but to "bee" (sorry, I have a problem with bee puns) thrust into it so suddenly meant we had a lot to learn, and very fast. We immediately started learning all we could about beekeeping and how to keep our bees happy and healthy. We rented all the books we could find on bees (yes, even children's books) from our library. When we finally rented *The Beekeeper's Bible*, however, we knew we had found something special. We knew we couldn't just read this one, and return it to the library. Oh no, this one had to become a part of our own library. We bought it right away. I'll start with the superficial: this book is beautiful. The cover is old fashioned, delightful, and charming artwork. This is no lightweight, either. When they call this book a "bible", it's because it literally is bible-sized. Heavy, thick, complete. It would do some serious damage if you threw this book at someone! Inside the covers, it's just as impressive. The pages are glossy, color printed with photos and images on nearly every page. Those who like their picture books will love this one, but there is plenty of literature here to give you quite the education. That's where I'll go next, the information. This book is rich and complete on all things bees, truly a wealth of information. From the history of beekeeping, to the breeds, styles of hives, and a million other things to learn to the honey recipes, crafts, and then some. This thick book is chock full of information.

This is a beautiful book on beekeeping and a hefty tome that's a pleasure to hold. Full of informative history, great photography, heavy paper stock, quality binding, and rife with a fairly complete overview of standard practice beekeeping methodology of the last 50+ years. And therein lays the problem. There is virtually no mention at all of top bar hives or the growing interest in balanced and natural beekeeping methods aimed at encouraging self-sustaining hives. Given the current state of affairs in the beekeeping world, this is a somewhat unforgivable oversight for a book with a publish date as recent as 2011. Instead what we have is a book that focuses almost entirely on the highly interventionist beekeeping methods developed by commercial beekeepers over the last 50 to 100 years. Methods which many beekeepers are now beginning to suspect are contributing to the diminished capacity of bees to be naturally self-sustaining in the absence of persistent human interventions. They are the methods established, and now sadly accepted as standard practice, by production-focused commercial beekeepers and oriented toward a single purpose.....high honey yields. This means intensive "management" of the bees inhibiting any number of natural behaviors to induce greater honey production. They include routine refined sugar feedings, application and

use of synthetic and highly potent medications to control pests and viruses, queen manipulation including artificial insemination & frequent replacement, drone and swarm suppression by the excision of drone and queen cells (or by colony splitting).

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