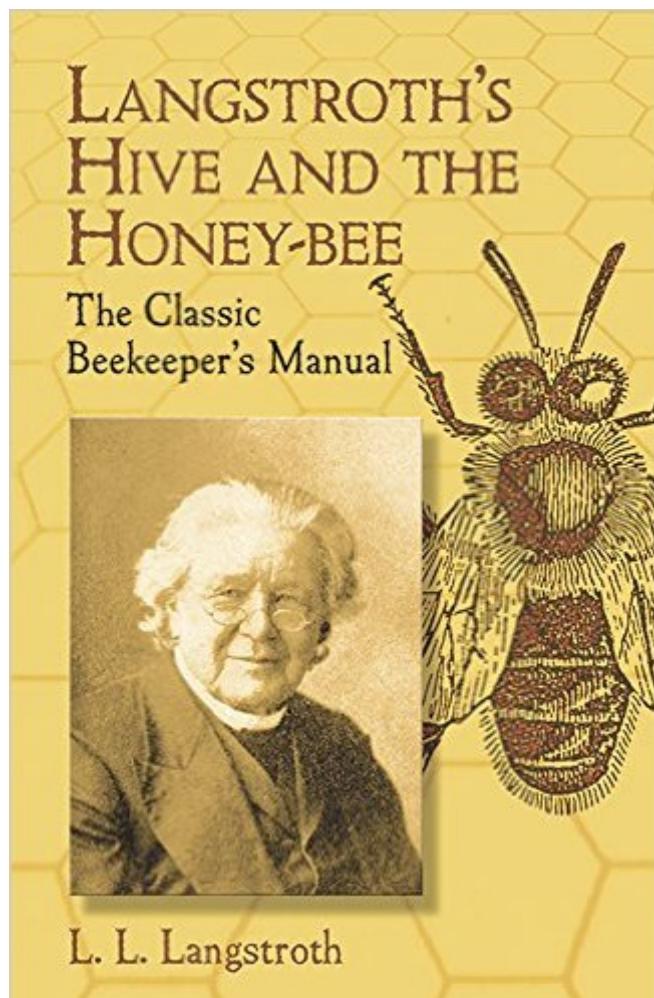


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Langstroth's Hive And The Honey-Bee: The Classic Beekeeper's Manual



Synopsis

This influential guide by the Reverend L. L. Langstroth, "the father of modern beekeeping," revolutionized the practice of beekeeping. Originally published in 1853, his work constitutes the first descriptive treatise of modern bee management â " its innovations allowed people to engage in actual beekeeping, rather than simply handling bee domiciles and extracting the honey. This book explains and illustrates techniques still employed 150 years later â " including the author's patented invention, a movable frame hive that quickly spread into common use around the world. In his reader-friendly, nontechnical style, Langstroth addresses every aspect of beekeeping: bee physiology; diseases and enemies of bees; the life-cycles of the queen, drone, and worker; bee-hives; and the handling of bees. An infectious sense of wonder and enthusiasm suffuses Langstroth's accounts of natural and artificial swarming, the production of honey and wax, and the best methods of feeding bees and maintaining an apiary. The manual abounds in practical and intriguing insights attained through the years of observation and experience, including "the kindness of bees to one another," "their infatuation for liquid sweets," and "the warning given by bees before stinging." This version of Langstroth's ever-popular manual is the fourth and final edition; it incorporates the author's own revisions and remains an unsurpassed resource for beekeepers.

Book Information

Paperback: 464 pages

Publisher: Dover Publications (February 20, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0486433846

ISBN-13: 978-0486433844

Product Dimensions: 1 x 5.2 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (32 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #228,555 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #105 inÂ Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Biology > Entomology #127 inÂ Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Animals > Insects & Spiders #338 inÂ Books > Science & Math > Agricultural Sciences > Animal Husbandry

Customer Reviews

I'm editing this to add that the publisher, Dover Publications rapidly responded to my query in regard to the manufacturing error explained below, and sent me a replacement copy. If I were able, I would

increase my rating to 4 stars. It misses getting five because, while it contains much information that is both valuable and valid today, substantial portions of the text are devoted to convincing the skeptics of the 1850's. To canvass the beekeeping territory, I picked up a few titles on bees, including Langstroth's *Hive and the Honeybee*, which appealed to both my desire to raise bees and my interest in American History. I was quite surprised then to find that at page 160, Langstroth's exposition on artificial swarming ends in mid-sentence. The next 30 pages are devoted to the heroes of Celtic mythology. Though I am of Scots and Irish descent, I knew next to nothing, of Celtic mythology beyond that cribbed by T.H. White. Thanks to a production error at Dover, I can now sustain 15 to 20 minutes of cocktail party banter about the Welsh name, Caledwchl, of Arthur's sword, Escalibur, (from, mind you, the Latin Caliburnis) and the parallels with, if not blatant plagiarism by, Malory, of the Cuchulainn stories, as the foundation stones of Arthurian legend were set in place. Aside from this flaw however, Langstroth remains a powerful primer on the beekeeping art. One well worth reading in an age where organic methods hold promise in the effort to combat Chronic Collapse Disorder. When Reverend Langstroth developed his methods of hive management, organic beekeeping was the only kind that existed.

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