



# The ABC & XYZ of Bee Culture: An Encyclopedia Pertaining to the Scientific and Practical Culture of Honey Bees

*By Amos Ives Root, Ann Harman, Dr. Hachiro Shimanuki, Kim Flottum*

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The 41st Edition of The ABC & XYZ Of Bee Culture has over 900 pages and more than 1,000 photos. Most photos are color, but many are black and white because of the extensive array of historical topics, people and events that are covered...here and nowhere else. Constructed as an easy to use and comprehensive encyclopedia of honey bees, beekeeping and beekeeping practices and equipment, the alphabetical listings cover absolutely everything in the beekeeping world. From African Honey Bees, to beeswax, to comb honey, to G. M. Doolittle, to essential oils, to Karl von Frisch, to Extracted Honey, to more than 50 of the most popular honey plants to laying workers, to honey bee mites, to nucleus colonies, to Queen piping and Queen rearing, to the A. I. Root Company History, to smoking colonies, to Top Bar Hives, to Varroa, to wintering to worker cells. The 16 page Glossary is easy to use, and contains hundreds of entries to make learning the science, and art of beekeeping easier and faster than you can imagine. And nowhere anywhere is there a more comprehensive listing of the people and events that make up the history of keeping bees. Hundreds of individuals are highlighted, noting their contributions to the beekeeping community...from L. L. Langstroth to modern day queen And, because of the extensive role the A. I. Root Company played in American, and even global beekeeping development, a comprehensive overview of the family, the manufacturing advances, and the contributions made by the family, and the company, are spelled out in detail not before shared. More than 50 authors were pulled in to assist with this work, each contributing the most up-to-date information in their respective fields. These were so skillfully edited by Dr.Shimanuki, Ann Harman, and Kim Flottum that the contributions mesh perfectly, with none being too complicated, and none being too simple. Ann Harman s fact checking was extensive, and the accuracy of the information is, considering the volume of material, a tribute to the dedication of all of the authors, editors and publishers. The science of honey bees and beekeeping certainly are on display in this work, but so too are the many entries that focus on demonstrating practical beekeeping skills and information. Everything from how to lay out a small, medium or large honey house and what equipment to choose,

to how to equalize colonies, to assembling equipment, to judging honey for show, to instrumental insemination, to making mead, to making nucs, to collecting pollen, to rearing queens, to harvesting honey, to lighting and keeping lit, smokers. A wealth of beekeeping how-to exists alongside the science of beekeeping that supports why beekeepers do things the way they do. This book is both a handy reference to see how something is done, why it is done that way, the science behind the actions, and the history of how beekeeping got to where it is today. It is indispensable, too, as a jumping off place when you want to find out more, but simply didn't know where to start. Often called The Beekeeper's Bible, The ABC & XYZ Of Bee Culture should be on every beekeeper's shelf....for emergencies, for background, and for fun.

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## **Editorial Review**

### About the Author

Dr. Shimanuki is the retired Research Leader of the USDA Honey Bee Research Lab, Beltsville, MD. A microbiologist, he is recognized as a world authority on honey bee diseases and pests. He served as beekeeping consultant and advisor in the U.S., Europe, South and Central America, Africa, the Middle and Far East and other locations. He has authored or co-authored hundreds of research papers, book chapters and journal reviews. He was English Editor for *Apidologie*, and served as President of IBRA in the UK. As such, he is current with honey bee research worldwide, and possesses a global insight to information regarding honey bees and beekeeping. Ann Harman enjoyed a career as a research chemist, but has since taught and consulted beekeeping information worldwide, traveling to near 30 countries on over 50 assignments. She is an EAS Master Beekeeper, and a Honey Judge in the US, and a Certified Honey Judge in Wales, UK. She is a monthly columnist for *Bee Culture* magazine, and makes frequent contributions to *The Beekeeper's Quarterly*, and *Bee Craft*. Kim Flottum has been for over 25 years the Editor of *Bee Culture Magazine*, the largest circulation beekeeping magazine in the U.S., appearing on newsstands across the US. *Bee Culture* has been published by The A.I. Root Company for over 135 years. The A. I. Root Company has published a variety of books, CDs, videos, audio tapes, web pages and social media sites dedicated to improving the quality of beekeeping information available. In that vein, Kim has written hundreds of articles and editorials for *Bee Culture*, and has made thousands of contributions to other web pages, magazines and many, many books. He is the Author of *The Backyard Beekeeper*, *The Honey Handbook*, and *Better Beekeeping for beginning, growing and advanced beekeepers*. He has edited *Honey Bee Pests, Predators and Diseases* with Dr. Roger Morse (a Gold Medal Winner at Apimondia), *Observation Hives* with Dr. Dewey Caron and Dr. Thomas Webster, and two editions of *ABC*, the 40th with Dr. Roger Morse, and now the 41st (another Gold Medal Winner from Apimondia). He has been invited to The National Honey Show in the UK several times, traveled to Northern Ireland, Canada and 48 of the 49 contiguous states as an invited lecturer, consultant, speaker and teacher. Kim Flottum received his BS from The University Of Wisconsin, Madison and worked for several years as a Research Coordinator for the USDA Honey Bee Research Lab in Madison, conducting research on Pesticides and honey bees, pollination of a variety of crops, and the attractiveness of hundreds of native Wisconsin plants to honey bees. He remains a backyard beekeeper, gardener and a caretaker of both chickens and cats.

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