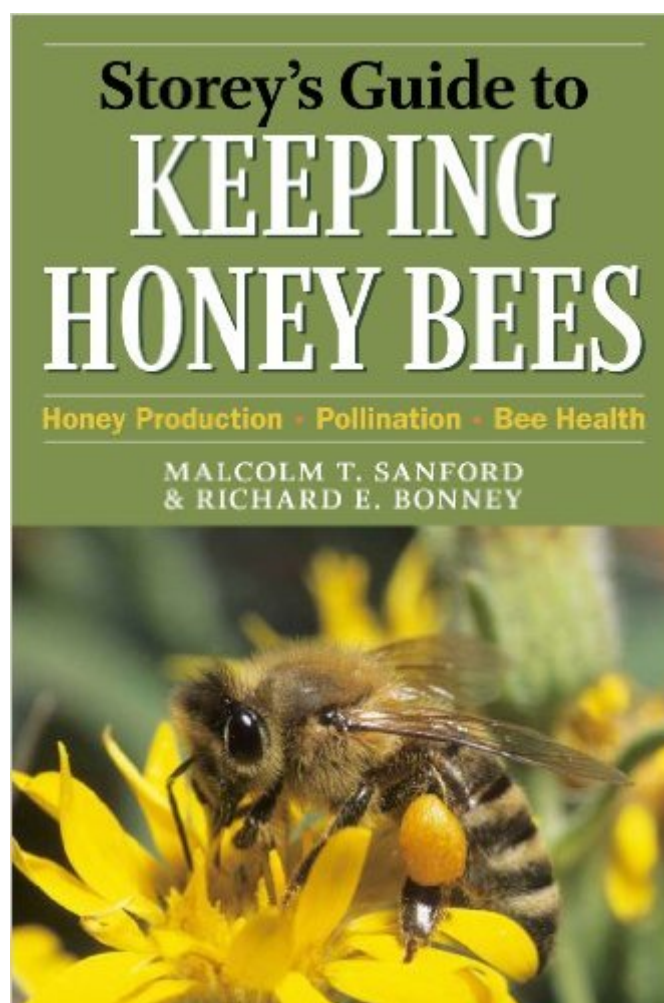


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# Storey's Guide To Keeping Honey Bees: Honey Production, Pollination, Bee Health (Storey's Guide To Raising)



## Synopsis

Enjoy the sweet rewards of keeping your own honey bees. Learn how to plan a hive, acquire bees, install a colony, keep your bees healthy, and harvest honey. Full of practical advice on apiary equipment and tools, this comprehensive guide also includes an overview of colony life and honey bee anatomy.

## Book Information

Series: Storey's Guide to Raising

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (67 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

University of Florida Extension Beekeeping Specialist Malcolm T. Sanford has combined his expertise with the late Richard E. Bonney's foundational "Beekeeping and Hive Management" instructional to create Storey's Guide to Keeping Honey Bees, a straightforward introduction to the craft and art of keeping and managing beehives for honey. Although intended especially to help neophytes get up to speed, Storey's Guide to Keeping Honey Bees is solid and thorough enough to offer plenty of tips, tricks, and techniques that long-time veterans will appreciate. Chapters address the necessary preparatory steps (from researching local community laws about bees to acquiring and learning how to use protective equipment to keeping emergency remedies for bee stings on hand and more), how to install a colony (two colonies are recommended for beginners, in case one colony suffers disaster), prevent diseases, harvest honey crops, and much more. "In rural areas, ensure that livestock are not located nearby (some tend to use beehives as scratching posts). Horses are a particular problem. Their odor seems to offend bees, and when stinging starts, horses

often react violently and can injure themselves."

This is an excellent beginning book for new beekeepers! No qualifications or caveats, it is a great beginner's book. Successful beekeeping is challenging, both physically and academically, these authors sort through the kernel points a beginner needs to process while beginning the lifelong quest of understanding honey bees and what makes them tick. After decades of beekeeping, I've seen many 'basic' beekeeping texts. I prefer this text because the authors have a logical organization that is easy to follow, building on the basics and moving forward. Another strength in this guide to beekeeping is that it exposes the reader to alternative styles of beekeeping like the Topbar and Warre' hives as well as the standard Langstroth hive. Beware of 'teachers' who teach only one way to keep bees (usually because it is more 'Natural' or 'Organic'). Not feel good, "Let's Save the Bees" nonsense, but written from the perspective of experienced beekeepers who have been around, and have the ability to communicate instruction. We will likely use this as the text for our next beekeeping class for our local Bee Club.

This was a very poor representation of what beekeeping is actually like and in many cases he gives the worst possible solutions on how to fix common problems in the hives. An example of how useless this book is, is the question "how much honey should i leave on a hive during winter?" the author's response was "what do you think they need?" Many other problems are approached by either reasking the question or are just a new question in and of themselves. I would not even recommend this book to a novice as even simple tasks are not fully explained. Also the random quotes and filler are not only distracting but boring and uninformative. This book needs some serious revision or to be pulled off the shelves. As a follow up to a comment left I recommend "the beekeeper a handbook" by Diana Sammataro and Alphonse Avitabile, it's great for beginners but also has good information for mid level beekeepers too.

First, I'm reviewing the KINDLE edition of this book. I will be reviewing the print copy too, since this version was so terrible as to be worthless. DO NOT buy the Kindle edition. The formatting is terrible (in the print version too), but especially when numbers and symbols are used. For example, in the Kindle edition, the 3/8 in "bee space" is never given clearly, since the symbol is garbled. There's plenty of other formatting problems. In addition, the book is not a great guide to keeping. The only cool thing I would say this book includes is a great description of beelining (fun!). The rest is only marginal advice and in some cases, not advice at all. I was forced to buy this book for a class, but

it's crap.

I recommend this book to anyone thinking about beekeeping. It has some great knowledge in it. I went to a beginners workshop for beekeeping and 90% of what the woman talked about was covered in this book. I am glad that I have a reference on my shelf should any questions arise. This isn't a book that gives you all the secrets to beekeeping. It is a good book that will help you get going in beekeeping and give you sound advice and tips from people who have been there. As always, you should look for local beekeeping organizations to get local information on keeping bees.

I was interested in beekeeping and I had been reading online information as well as the state I live in's bee keepers assoc. So when I saw the storey's guide I figured it would be a great resource to see if I'd be able to do this. So far the information is great. It definitely will let you know if this is something you might be interested in on your own. It's also great for folks who are just interested in knowing more about the whole process and what has been happening with our bee's. It's a really fascinating read. For a complete novice like myself this has a huge amount of information. I never knew all that goes into keeping these amazing little creatures. Even if I don't keep bee's I'm am so glad I read this book. Although I am leaning towards setting up my own hives, since I do know what goes into it now.

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