



The Complete Idiot's Guide to Beekeeping

H.G. Bissinger, Dean Stiglitz

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The buzz on beekeeping.

The Complete Idiot's Guide® to Beekeeping has all the information a beginning beekeeper needs to know to start a hive and keep it buzzing. Expert beekeepers Dean Stiglitz and Laurie Herbolsheimer, owners of Golden Rule Honey, take readers step by step through the entire process-from information on the inhabitants of a hive and how it works to collecting bees, keeping them healthy, raising a queen, harvesting honey and wax, and storing hives for the off- season.

The Complete Idiot's Guide to Beekeeping Details

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From Reader Review The Complete Idiot's Guide to Beekeeping for online ebook

Mark says

Lately I have been researching beekeeping. Especially since I have recently become one. In doing the research for keeping these fascinating creatures, I've found (as beekeepers say) for every ten keepers of bees there are twenty opinions. Bissinger's book comes up on sites on what is referred to natural beekeeping.

In the beekeeping world there are kinda-sorta three schools: 1) Give em' chemicals to keep them alive, 2) Give em' some chemicals but not harsh ones because it's necessary, and 3) Bees know best; let them do what they're best at. If they're not good at living, let them die. Bissinger's book picks door #3. At first, I was skeptical about his methods, motivation and philosophies. I must admit, however, that after losing a hive and doing more research, his suggestions make more sense.

The Complete Idiot's Guide to Beekeeping offers solid suggestions, clear and concise directions, and what is coming to be considered a realistic way of keeping bees in such a way that respects nature, the bees, and the beekeeper. There is a lot of technical expertise in the book concerning methods of keeping that include foundationless frames, top bar hives vs. Langstroth hives, feeding vs. no feed, the use of chemical solutions to disease and pests that are unfortunately prevalent in beekeeping today (Bissinger advises against the use of chemicals).

In the tradition of "Idiot's Guides" the book is easily accessible to beginners and is very well organized including the famous "boxes" for information. While I picked up this book before knowing much at all about keeping bees, I come away after reading the book believing that I at the very least have some very solid information about a world that is rarely filled with certainties.

Bigbear Beeguy says

The more I read it, the more I like it

As a self professed biologically organic beekeeper, I find this book to be very valuable. As a beekeeping instructor at a local community college, I use this book as a source of information in my classes and always make it a most recommended purchase to them.
