Beekeeping is the maintenance of honey bee colonies, commonly in hives, by humans. Bees are accommodated in artificial lives where they live comfortably within easy reach of the bee keeper for examination and extraction of surplus lovely, after keeping of sufficient lovely in the combs for the bees. Honey is a part of bees, which gather sugar containing nectars from flowers. Honey should be processed as soon as possible after removal from the hive. Honey processing is a sticky operation, in which time and patience are required to achieve the best results. Careful protection against contamination by ants and flying insects is needed at all stages of processing. Bee honey is natural, unrefined food consumed as much in fresh or canned state. It is readily assimilated and is more acceptable to the stomach, particularly in the case of ailing persons, than cane sugar. It is an antiseptic and is applied to wounds and burns with beneficial results. Honey collection and its marketing in India are still not fully organised. The main uses of honey are in cooking, baking, as a spread on breads and as an addition to various beverages such as tea and as a sweetener in commercial beverages. Honey is the main ingredient in the alcoholic beverages mead, which is also known as honey wine or honey bear, honey is also used in medicines. A number of small scale industries depend upon bees and bee products. Honey and bees products finds use in several industries which are under; pharmaceuticals, meat packing, bees wax in industries, bee venom, royal jelly, bee nurseries, bee equipments and hives etc. There is considerable demand for the honey and other products. Outside the thousands of homemade recipes in each cultural tradition, honey is largely used on a small scale as well as at an industrial level.

Some of the fundamentals of the book are history of beekeeping in India present, all India co ordinate research project on honey bee research and training, future plan for development, the pattern of beekeeping today, development of beekeeping equipments, beekeeping industry and honeybee species, bee hive products, medicinal properties of honey, bees and agriculture, pesticidal poisoning to honeybees, handling bees, queen rearing and artificial queen, beekeeping and ancillary industries, honey based industries, honey in pharmaceuticals, honey in meat packing, beeswax in industries, bee stings precautions and treatment.

The book contains the steps of bee keeping in proper manner and details of honey processing. This book is an invaluable resource for new entrepreneurs, technocrats and also for established enterprises.
1. HISTORY OF BEEKEEPING IN INDIA PRESENT STATUS AND FUTURE
HISTORY OF BEEKEEPING IN INDIA
Beekeeping Extension
Khadi and Village Industries Commission
State Khadi and Village Industries Board
Directly Aided Organisation
All India Beekeepers’ Association (AIBKA)
BEEKEEPING RESEARCH
Department of Agriculture and Colleges
Apicultural Research Laboratory, Mahableshwar (M.S.)
Central Bee Research and Training Institute (KVIC)
All India Co-ordinated Research Project on Honey Bee Research and Training
Punjab Agricultural University
Other Apicultural Departments
TRAINING IN BEEKEEPING
MARKETING OF BEE-PRODUCTS
PRESENT STATUS
Extension
Research
Training
Marketing
CONSTRAINTS
FUTURE PLAN FOR DEVELOPMENT
The Changing Scenario Under KVIC
Indian Council of Agricultural Research
NATIONAL BEE BOARD
Action Plan
Extension
Research
Training and Education
Marketing
2. WORLD SCENARIO IN BEEKEEPING
THE PATTERN OF BEEKEEPING TODAY
RACE OF HONEYBEES
Dark bees, A. mellifera mellifera L.
Italian bees, A. mellifera Ligustica Spin
Carniolans. A. mellifera carnica (Pollmann)
Caucasian, A. mellifera caucasica Gorb
HONEY PRODUCTION
BEEKEEPING IN EUROPE
GRADING, PACKING AND MARKETING OF HONEY
INJURY TO HONEYBEES BY POISONING
3. BEEKEEPING IN INDIA—ROLE OF KVIC
KVIC
GROWTH OF BEEKEEPING UNDER KVIC
Organisational Set Up of Beekeeping Under KVIC
Growth of Beekeeping in Different States/Areas
DIRECTORATE OF BEEKEEPING
ORGANISATIONAL SET UP UNDER CBRTI, PUNE
4. BEEKEEPING RESEARCH SET-UP, ACHIEVEMENTS AND FUTURE STRATEGIES

RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS AND FUTURE STRATEGIES

Beekeeping Industry and Honeybee Species

BEFLORA
EQUIPMENT AND MANAGEMENT
GENETICS AND BREEDING
DISEASES & ENEMIES
POLLINATION OF CROPS
HONEYBEE PRODUCTS
PESTICIDAL POISONING

5. MAJOR CONSTRAINTS IN BEEKEEPING
BEEKEEPING WITH APIS CERENA INDICA AND APIS MELLIFERA

THE MAJOR CONSTRAINTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF BEEKEEPING IN INDIA ARE AS FOLLOWS
Using the Correct Species for Beekeeping
Availability of Genetically Superior Queens for Increased Honey Production
Lack of Technical Knowledge for Efficient Management of Colonies for High Honey Yields
Lack of Infrastructure at the Grass Roots and National Level for Beekeeping
Poor Quality Control for the Production of Honey
Emphasis on Production of Honey Instead of other Bee Products
Bees Wax
Pollen
Propolis
Bee Venom
Royal Jelly
Disease Prevention, Control and Analysis
Lack of Sufficient Financial Help from Government and Lending Institutions for the Development of Beekeeping
No Tax or Other Monetary Benefits for Beekeeping
No Control on the Use of Pesticides by Farmers
Leading to Death of Bee Colonies in Field Locations
Pricing Structures for Honey
Lack of Finances for Packers or Beekeepers to be
Able to Store Honey
Beekeeping Being not Recognized as a Priority Agricultural Activity and Getting Governmental Support
There is No Promotion of Mass Planting of Bee Flora
Apiculture not Being Recognized as a Specific Field
Lack of Consumer Awareness of Honey and its Products
Beekeeping not Being Considered as an Employment Generation Activity

CONCLUSION

6. BEES AND THEIR ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE
WILD BEES
SPECIES OF HONEYBEES

7. MORPHOLOGY, ANATOMY, COLONY ORGANIZATION AND LIFE CYCLE
MORPHOLOGY
ANATOMY
COLONY ORGANIZATION
DEVELOPMENT

POINTS OF CASTE DISTINCTION

8. BEEKEEPING EQUIPMENTS
LANGSTROTH TEN-FRAME HIVE
NEWTON HIVE
OTHER BEEKEEPING EQUIPMENTS
EQUIPMENTS FOR HANDLING BEES

9. SEASONAL ACTIVITIES AND SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR OF HONEY BEES
SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR OF HONEYBEES
SEQUENCE OF ACTIVITIES IN THE LIFE OF BEES
DIVISION OF LABOUR
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Dance Language
CHEMICAL COMMUNICATION
PHEROMONES
WORKER PRODUCED ODOURS
QUEEN - PRODUCED ODOURS
Inhibition of Queen Rearing and Swarming
Prevention of Worker Ovary Development
Attraction of Drones for Mating
Attraction of Swarms and their Stabilization
Stimulation of Nasonov Pheromone Release and Worker Foraging
QUEEN ATTRACTIVENESS AND RECOGNITION
Other Pheromones
CONTROL OF REPRODUCTION IN HONEYBEE COLONIES
Foraging Activities
Nectar
Pollen
Water
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Maintenance of Nest/Hive Temperature
FORAGING RANGE
WORKING HABITS OF FIELD BEES
SPEED OF FLIGHT
COLONY DEFENCE ACTIVITIES
10. FOOD OF THE HONEYBEES, BEE FLORA
AND HONEY FLOW PERIODS
FOOD OF THE HONEYBEES
BEE FLORA
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CATCHING THE SWARM
PREVENTION OF SWARMING
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European Foul Brood
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MITES
Acarapis Woodi
Varroa Jacobsoni
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HONEY AND DIABETES
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Honey Water
Comb Honey
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Honey in the Kitchen Angel Biscuits
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Apple-Oats-Musli
Orange-Apple-Musli
Carrot Salad with Honey
Comb Lemon Squash
Honey Mango Squash
Honey Jam
Honey Candy
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