A Brave New Solution for Beekeepers from Apiary Book

We've all read the disturbing reports pointing out that nearly a quarter of all known bee species haven't been seen for more than 30 years. It's also common knowledge why we've seen a rapid decline of bee populations and other pollinators across the globe. In the aftermath, researchers concluded that climate change, loss of pollinator habitat to human development, and the growing use of insecticides, including neonicotinoid, are the primary drivers of declining bee numbers. If you ask a beekeeper, he or she will surely add to the list a multitude of other reasons: from mites and viruses, bacteria, fungi, to failing queens, pests and invasive species, such as Vespa Velutina (Asian Hornet).

In the increasingly complex world of beekeeping, someone new to the craft can be easily dissuaded to give it up before seeing any worthwhile results. Not everyone has what it takes to succeed with honey bees. There's a long and hard learning curve, a notable investment needed to get started, not to mention the time and energy that each beekeeper willingly donates. If you are considering to become a beekeeper or maybe thinking of scaling up your beekeeping business, there's one thing you can't do without: accurate and real-time data that helps you take better-informed decisions in a timely manner.

Our mission: Better-Informed Beekeepers

Modern beekeeping comes with many challenges, but the community of beekeepers has already developed solutions to many of them. Take for example one common activity we all do as beekeepers: recording our work done in the apiary, be it treatments or hive inspections, feedings or queen rearing tasks, jotting down equipment inventory and todo lists or reminders. All this information and more can be easily logged into an apiary management application installed on your smartphone. Forget about the pen-and-paper or traditional way of doing things, step into the future to reap the benefits of technology!

Apiary Book is one of the most popular beekeeping apps available today, being downloaded over 200,000 times on <u>Google Play Store</u>, used by tens of thousands monthly active beekeepers, and recently <u>launched for iOS</u> devices too. Translated into 19 languages with the help beekeepers from all over the world, Apiary Book has been improved and fine-tuned over time through the feedback received from our users – the beekeepers.

Apiary Book's story began 7 years ago, when Bogdan Iordache, a passionate software developer with more than 2 decades of experience, started his beekeeping journey. His mission? To help beekeepers worldwide make better informed decisions based on historical data, current weather conditions and best practices. Today, Apiary Book has a big online community of beekeepers and a strong team that continuously works on creating the best beekeeping solution out there.

A Solution for Beginners and Professional Beekeepers

Broadly defined, Apiary Book is a solution for managing beekeeping activities in the apiary, for monitoring beehives and analyzing data of bee colonies and environmental factors affecting their health. Specifically, how does it help beekeepers?

It is a smartphone application where you can record and log in every detail about your hives and bee colonies. For each hive created in the app, you can add a variety of details, such as: location, number and types of frames, origin, description, bee family strength, queen bee breed, origin and state. Furthermore, you can easily identify hives in your apiary and see your recorded information, by creating and printing a QR code or by using NFC tags.

Apiary Book keeps accurate and up-to-date records of your activity in the apiary, such as treatments you performed or feedings, observations from your inspections, like if you found Varroa mites, colony movements for when you're travelling, veterinary checks, queen rearing tasks and more. Nothing is overlooked. There's even a hands-free Voice Action feature that assists you when you're all suited up and cannot use your gloved hands to type in your observations. Simply use your voice to record information while working.

The app also helps you organize and manage your beekeeping activity in a way that improves productivity and cuts costs. Thus, you have access to localized weather information in order to plan activities when the weather is optimal and you can create reminders, so that you don't forget what to do next and when. Whether you need to keep track of your expenses and acquisitions or create a beekeeping inventory and to-do lists, you can rest assured that we have you covered.

With Apiary Book you get access to know-how from all over the world. Our knowledge base includes best beekeeping practices, insights from our community and personalized recommendations. Based on the information recorded by you in the app, the Assistant feature extracts useful data and sends you recommendations and insights that are specific to your situation.

You can connect with other beekeepers and get valuable advice. You can either send them a personal message through the app and ask for advice, or better yet, you can talk with a mentor from our Mentorship program. Our mentors are beekeepers with extensive experience, who are currently successfully managing their apiaries and making a living out of beekeeping. Whether you don't know how to apply treatments correctly, detect early signs of varroa in your hive or catch a swarm of nearby bees, it's good to know that you can always rely on their advice.

We also offer **Cloud Sync** and **access to your data from other devices.** So that you can record your activities on your smartphone when you're working in your apiary, sync the data to the cloud and access your apiary data on your laptop/computer/tablet when you are at home.

There are many others features that come with the Apiary Book solution and that have been developed with beekeepers' needs in mind. To discover them all, download Apiary Book for <u>Android</u> and <u>iOS</u>, or go to our <u>website</u>. While most features are free to use, there are others that can only be accessed if a <u>Pro Subscription</u> is paid. Users can opt for 2 types of subscriptions, either for 1 year or for 6 months.

In the end, our objectives are: to increase beekeepers' general knowledge about bees, to raise awareness regarding potential threats to bees' health, to promote a set of good management practices and to facilitate communication between beekeepers.