

Foreword

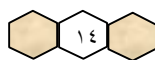
The Northern Governorates of Iraq with their mountains, wildflowers, orchard areas and crops are very suitable for beekeeping. This was demonstrated by the historically large interest in traditional beekeeping. Although traditional beekeeping is very sustainable, the systems used are less practical and versatile than the modern ones. Economically, therefore the modern methods can yield much more honey and profit than the traditional systems while possible losses are smaller and easier to control.

The first book on beekeeping prepared in ١٩٩٩ by FAO staff, under the same title as the present book, was very successful. Since the demand for this information was great it is now out of print and no longer available. Therefore it was decided to prepare a second, enlarged version of the book with an increase to ٣٦٠ pages.

The book now includes extensive chapters on history of beekeeping, biology and anatomy of bees, bee species and races in the world. A much more extensive account of diseases and pests of honeybees and their control is given. To increase productivity much greater emphasis is given to queen rearing. The different types of equipment to enhance production are now described in detail.

Although the book now has a larger contents on theoretical issues than before, it is still intended for both theoretical and practical purposes and will serve apicultural staff, students and advanced beekeepers. We are hoping that the books will benefit all target groups and that it will contribute to an increase in prosperity of rural and urban populations in Northern Iraq.

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