



Eva Crane Trust

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New Dictionary of Beekeeping Terms

by EVA CRANE

This is written as a personal rather than an editorial note, so that I can express my gratitude to the many people who have made the publication of this *Dictionary* possible.

The original suggestion that we should add a Slav volume to our *Dictionary of Beekeeping Terms* came from Mrs. Marie Simpson in 1952, and her choice of languages (Russian, Czech and Polish) has been adhered to. Mrs. Simpson was emphatic that such a dictionary could only be produced competently by the active co-operation of specialists in the countries concerned, and the work went very slowly at first because of the difficulty of getting direct contact with them.

Restrictions were gradually eased, and by 1959 we had received draft manuscripts from Czechoslovakia, Poland and the Soviet Union, giving the terms in Volume I translated into the respective Slav languages. The terms were translated from English, French or German, according to which language each colleague knew best. But 'equivalent' terms are rarely identical, and different routes tend to make discrepancies greater: a Russian term translated directly from English is not necessarily the same as that obtained by translating from German to Czech, and thence to Russian. It was therefore still necessary to check, for every term, the translations *between* the three Slav languages.

An opportunity for this cross-checking came when I was invited to Moscow in September 1962. I made sure to take with me several copies of the combined manuscript, hoping firstly that I should meet the Czech and Polish as well as the Russian co-authors, and secondly that opportunities could be found to thrash out some of the outstanding problems of nomenclature. The first hope was fulfilled; the second was less easy, because such bee-philological discussions were naturally not included in the official programme. But a great deal of talent was quickly brought to light, coupled with an eagerness to co-operate in the venture. Professor Zhdanov from Kazan and Miss Komarovskaya from the Beekeeping Institute at Rybnoe especially won my gratitude, by adding this unscheduled task to their already full 'programme', although usually only the night hours could be devoted to it. By day, in odd moments in trains and buses, and in laboratories, libraries and hotels, we battled for the best choice of an expression for some of the problem terms — those that seem to exist in one language but not in another. Discussions were continued in Poland,

where Professor A. Demianowicz proved a wonderful ally, with a wide knowledge of languages and a fine terminological 'nose'.

Meanwhile another problem was being discussed between the Czechs, Poles and Russians. If this *Dictionary*, which would be so useful to them, were to be published in England, their currency restrictions would prevent more than a dozen or so copies entering each country. Could the printing not be done in Moscow, Prague or Waisaw? I was more than willing to pursue such a possibility, not only for the reason above, but because of complications in getting Russian—and even Czech and Polish—printed competently in England.

In the end the Polish offer was accepted, Dr. Bornus and Professor Demianowicz undertaking the responsibility of seeing the book through the press. Since the stocks of Volume I of the *Dictionary* are low, it was agreed to reprint French and German terms (as well as English) in Volume III. This new *Dictionary* is now available, at a most modest price thanks to the Polish book subsidy.

Although my name appears as Editor of the whole *Dictionary*, most of the work on Volume III has in fact been done by others. I want to put on record here my appreciation of the contributions many people have made to the book. In particular I thank those listed in it as 'Chief Collaborators': from Czechoslovakia E. Lisý, Dr. V. Piškaček and Dr. J. Svoboda; from the Soviet Union Cand. N. M. Glushkov, A. V. Komarovskaya, Cand. D. P. Trubetskaya (K. P. Istomina-Tsvetkova), L. P. Tsvetkov and Prof. S. V. Zhdanov; and from Poland the late Prof. S. Kirkor, and—most of all—the Editors for Slav languages, Prof. A. Demianowicz and Prof. L. Bornus.