

## **Beekeeping and African Americans**

An annotated bibliography prepared by Dr. LaJoyce Lawton  
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Beekeeping has always been an integral part of the African American community. When Tuskegee Institute was established beekeeping was part of the curriculum.

Khalilah Bilal "When the teacher is ready the student will appear" 5 April 11  
[www.simplelent.wordpress.com/2011/04/05/when ...](http://www.simplelent.wordpress.com/2011/04/05/when...)

At Tuskegee Institute/University Dr. George Washington Carver taught Mr. Wade (father), Mr. Wade taught his son and his son taught Khalilah

Gwendolyn Davis, D.V.M. "Emergency medical treatment for massive bee stings: a first responder's approach". Excerpted from Africanized Honey Bee Awareness Workshop, Tuskegee University Press, March 1989.

In 1989 Dr. Davis was Station Veterinarian and Manager of Tuskegee University Apiary. She also studied beekeeping under Mr. Wade. Dr. Davis currently operates a veterinary clinic in Puerto Rico. She's quick to point out that she's a veterinarian who merely has a few hives on her farms. Dr. Davis is also willing to share her thoughts on colony collapse.

The Booker T. Washington Papers, v6, p XXII, p 514-15, 1901-1902  
"A class in beekeeping" (photograph)

Booker T. Washington (1905) [Tuskegee and It's People](#)

The culture of bees – students at work in the apiary (photograph, p. 220)

Booker T. Washington An autobiography – the story of my life and work  
Bee Culture at Tuskegee, p. 270

Charles Henry Turner: contributions of a forgotten African American to honey bee research

Published over 70 articles on beekeeping

[www.psychology.okstate.edu/museum/turner/turnerbio.html](http://www.psychology.okstate.edu/museum/turner/turnerbio.html)

The Project Gutenberg e book of Tuskegee and It's People: their ideals

The culture of bees (students at work in the apiary) p. 220

[www.gutenberg.org/files/23087/23087-h.htm](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/23087/23087-h.htm)

Tuskegee Beekeeping Ladies, George Ruffin Bridgeforth

Bridgeforth was an instructor at Tuskegee Institute from 1902-1915. The women received national attention for their work in the hives. This photo appears in both of Horn's books.

Horn, Tammy (2005) Bees in America: how the honeybee shaped America The University Press of Kentucky: Lexington KY

P 163, Pellett on black beekeepers, discussion of Charles Henry Turner, beekeeping was part of the curriculum when Tuskegee Institute was established.

P 212, discussion of black beekeepers

P 112, discussion of Charles Henry Turner

P 191, discussion of Charles Henry Turner

P 151, Bridgeforth photo

P 50, discussion of slave's use of honey

Horn, Tammy (2012) Beeconomy: what women and bees can teach us about local trade and the global market The University Press of Kentucky: Lexington KY

P 199-200, discussion of Margaret James Murray Washington, Bridgeforth photo.

P 149, discussion of uses of honey by African American women

P 14, discussion of African rituals using honey

P 33, discussion of Black Empowerment Employment (BEE government program).

P 268, First Lady Michelle Obama requests beehive at White House

P 185, slave narratives included uses of honey

Tillery, Caroline (1996) The African American Heritage Cookbook Citadel Press: New York NY

Traditional recipes and fond remembrances from Alabama's renowned Tuskegee Institute

A.I. Root

Donated materials and bees to Tuskegee Institute

Wrote a tribute to Booker T. Washington in "Bee Culture"