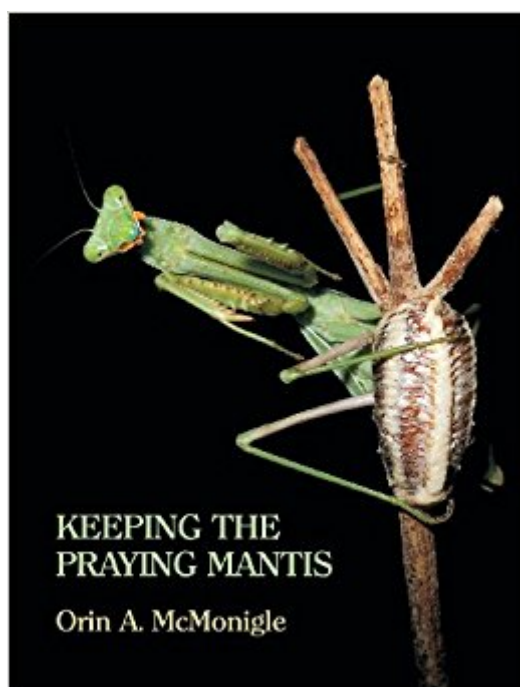


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# Keeping The Praying Mantis: Mantodean Captive Biology, Reproduction, And Husbandry



## Synopsis

Prepare to be enchanted with an in-depth and up-close view of the most loved of all invertebrates, the praying mantis! *Keeping the Praying Mantis* is a huge resource designed to give mantis enthusiasts every tool needed for feeding, housing, and rearing these magical (almost mythological) creatures. Details on their biology, relationship with man over the ages, behavior, and captive husbandry will give you a solid foundation for successfully keeping fascinating species from around the world. From ant mimics and unicorn mantids to Devil's flower, orchid, and ghost mantids, there are species to entice every insect hobbyist.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"I just got my copy of *Keeping the Praying Mantis*, and I'm really enjoying it as an accessible and informative read." "...it is excellent reading, I recommend picking up a copy if you can. Wonderful Pictures and very informative." -Mantidforum.net

This is the book on keeping mantids I had hoped to write with *Keeping Aliens* in 2001 but that small booklet was limited by its construction. This softcover version is more expensive than the hardcover because the paper is much thicker and the premium color print process used is more consistent.

Bought as a gift for nephew, he loves this book

Hermoso y documentado libro!!!

Well written and easy to follow. Great book for the mantis enthusiast.

very good

"My" praying mantis was waiting for me on my doorknob when I returned from breakfast with my family during a snowstorm about 10-days before Halloween, 2013. Brought him inside. Left him on a Boston Fern and went to brush my teeth and patch up my finger. No real problem with my finger but I felt lucky not to have lost my head. Later found him in the wiring in the basement above the Boston Fern. Bought him a Large 5-gallon Critter Keeper and told the cricket-lady I didn't expect to have to feed him beyond Thanksgiving. Spent the rest of the fall and winter season through Ground Hogs Day, 2014, researching him on the internet. He settled down and we became good friends. I have tons of pictures. There are several fine short videos. As the days, weeks and months went by he slowly ran out of steam. His lunch ate his head off overnight Wednesday, 05-Feb-2014. I bought this book anyway. It has Lots and Lots of Pictures. Orin McMonigle knows so much about the Mantis that he does not know where to begin ... But he does begin. He meanders a good bit through loosely organized sections of his experience and knowledge. He touches on much. He talks about 28-mantis species common to the continental US including the Chinese Mantis, my mantis, but does not say which one that is, though he talks about the "Chinese Mantis" in one section. He generally does not equate any of the scientific names in one section with his use of common names in another. He rarely follows through on the many opportunities to stitch things like that together. There is no step-by-step to anything. How humid is humid-enough ? How Warm ? What is "too dry" ? He touches on much. There are lots and lots of pictures. I found this book on the internet. I had already found the answers to all of my questions on the internet. After reading this book I do have lots more questions to research on the internet. One thing ... "Crickets are Dangerous !"

This is the only book on mantid keeping and breeding that you need. Filled with tons of useful and insightful information.

I really was not keen on the price. I wondered if it would be better to just drop fifty dollars in my toilet bowl and call it a day, but the moment I opened up the book I was so happy I ponied up the cash.

Typically, I trade books etc. with my friends. This will not be one of those books. I have indexed, highlighted, circled, made notations etc. It is an excellent reference book for both the experienced mantis keeper and the beginning hobbyist. There is only one double page that does not have a photo on it. This book is loaded with color photos that expose the reader to the mantises they love and mantises they likely have not seen before. So with two hundred pages of material and only one page without a photo reference, it will make the reader quite happy. The pictures are all color and range in size from wallet to full page. The quality is very good and the binding has held up to two read throughs and I am usually a person that man handles books. When I first saw the book I thought... crap, this binding is gonna spilt, but so far so good. The information in the book takes the reader through every possible aspect of raising mantis, from how the mantis is classified to, nymphs, feeding, ooths, breeding tricky humidity and enclosures. It is full of practical advice and doesn't make ridiculous recommendations that burst the wallet. Its all very practical. My other worry was that the book would read like a scientific text book from hell. To my pleasant surprise its a fairly simple read although the scientific names will always be tricky but they are very necessary for the new hobbyist to learn. The book also covers anatomy, health issues, and gives the reader a great overall understanding of species both native and exotic. Another great part of the book was that it outlines the types of feeders one needs to have on hand and how to culture them along with the pros and cons. This is very helpful! There is also a glossory for those of us not exposed to the technical aspects as well as a lengthy works cited for those over achievers that need to read even more. I would highly recommend that if you have the money to spare, get this book. It is not only a great refrence but an interesting coffee table book and conversation starter. Anytime I read it in public, I am asked questions. :) You won't go wrong with this book, pick it up as soon as you can!

A wonderful collection of information in print and photographic forms. Written to be understood by everyone from a young student to the beginning hobbyist to the experienced hobbyist looking to add a wonderful piece of literature to the personal library. The amount of information this book contains is well worth the price. The value of this book is high due to its use as a reference text (needing certain parts at a specific time) or rereading the book as a whole. I will recommend this book to everyone who is interested in its subject matter.

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