

Robert Müntz, Patricia Le Roux – **Milking Bats in the Amazon, 60 New Remedies for Homeopathy.**  
Publ. Remedia Homöopathie GmbH, ISBN 978-3-200-02486-1, 276 p., Eisenstadt 2011, 29,50 €.

To start with the conclusion: This book is a must read for all homeopathically interested. Never have you seen homeopathy so adventurous. Many are inclined to regard homeopathy as a method for bores and bookworms. This book shows the wild outdoor side of it.

As European homeopaths we are used to comfortably order all kinds of rare and exotic substances as readily prepared remedies, without asking a lot where they actually come from and how they were originally obtained. This book gives you a vivid impression of the adventures that are connected with collecting remedies from the rainforest or desert, far off well trodden tourist paths.

The renowned Austrian pharmacist, traveller and instrument maker Robert Müntz (Remedia pharmacy in Eisenstadt) takes the remedy orders of his customers seriously and literally travels the whole world to collect the substances, which he then triturates and potentized right on the spot in strict Hahnemannian tradition. His expeditions took him to the Amazon or Madagascar, all around North America in a small self-made helicopter, to Namibia and Papua New Guinea, to Egypt and India, as well as many other places.

With this book he takes us with him and lets us take part in the search for substances. – So we watch him being attacked by ant armies, capsize in torrental streams in the rainforest and survive walking back barefooted, catching snakes and bats, and always having open eyes for the new and unexpected.

Not only does the book tell us about his fascinating adventures, but it is also filled with interesting details about the remedies, nature observations, history, toxicology, chemistry, biology and medical use. Reading the book you never know what to admire more: his knowledge or his courage.

Apart from this you will find a short homeopathic introduction for each of the sixty remedies written by the French homeopath Patricia Le Roux, one of her last publications before her tragic death three years ago. She was part of Robert's and Jan Scholten's provings group in Africa in 2011, and she was the one to urge Robert to write the book in the first place.

One of the rare books that is highly informative and excitingly entertaining at the same time.

*Jörg Wichmann, [www.provings.info](http://www.provings.info).  
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A sample text (p. 102)

"Collection

On the way to the archaeological site of Machu Picchu, I passed by a thicket of large opuntias. Their size was so imposing that I walked closer in order to observe the flowers. I noticed a massive amount of scale insects on the cacti; the pad surfaces were almost completely covered. As I attempted to remove a few of the insects, I saw to my great surprise that the crushed ones left an intense red color in their wake. A little later I learned I had accidentally found the true cochineal, the basis of the *Coccus Cacti* remedy. Due to the loss of all my utensils for making homeopathic potencies, I saved a few of the insects in my backpack and triturated them at my laboratory when I returned home.

My Shoe Saga

Because I had lost my shoes at the beginning of the trip during our misadventures on the Rio Pozuzo, I had to continue for many days traveling barefoot. With a shoe size of 47, I had no chance of finding shoes that would fit me at any shop in Peru. Finally, in Machu Picchu, I found a shoemaker who was willing to make me a pair of solid shoes within three days. We agreed on a price, and three days later I returned to his shop. As soon as I entered the door, he let out a loud moan and began shaking his head. At first, I thought he hadn't finished my shoes. But then he showed them to me, a wonderfully robust-looking pair with thick soles. His lamentations had to do with the price – he had never made such a large pair in his life and had completely miscalculated the cost. In the end, I was glad to pay the double because I was now at an altitude of 2300 meters and it was bitterly cold."