

opened with a pen knife. I tried the starvation plan; several of them I starved twice as it would still show up. I even destroyed two sets of foundation. I must consider the time, patience and courage, with a dogged determination to look into every cell in 80 colonies, which I did seven times, I made up my mind to do it, to clean them out and goodness knows which will be first. Many a score of white combs and super combs we melted, it was enough to break the heart of a fox. I want to be first on your list for next summer. I may buy a lot of colonies which will be purchased subject to your inspection."

Mr. McEvoy replies as follows:

You got clear off the track by pursuing the wrong way at the cross roads. When you and I get to work on your apiary we will put every thing to rights just as nice as the flowers of May and do it without the loss of a single comb.

Your colonies ran out of unsealed honey when they had a large quantity, brood on hand to feed and then your bees did not uncap the sealed stores fast enough to keep pace with the amount of brood that required feeding and the result was that considerable brood had to die through not being fed. And for some time after that the brood would suffer in proportion to the length of time that the brood nest was out of unsealed stores, and end in an increase of starved brood, which the bees would never flow to remain in the combs for some time after the honey flow commenced. I can never would have found one cell of dead brood in any of your colonies if you had kept them well supplied with unsealed stores. You may say that I am very much mistaken as to the cause in your case. Oh no, my dear friend I am not, I have travelled over every inch of this line for fully twenty

years and from close observing, feeding and watching the results I found the cause why the bees failed to feed all the brood at certain times. On the night of the 28th of May, 1889, we had a killing frost all over the province of Ontario, which was followed by several days of wet weather. That frost coming at the end of one of the warmest and most favorable springs ever known, for bees was a very serious thing, because it caught all colonies full of brood and suddenly shut off the honey flow at the time when every colony had an immense quantity of larvæ on hand to feed. I warned every bee-keeper that I saw at that time that he could look for a wholesale starvation of brood, and a very small crop of honey if he did not go to work and feed his bees so as to give them a chance to feed the larvæ. I kept my brood chambers well supplied with unsealed stores (through uncapping and feeding) until the honey flow commenced and secured one of the largest yields of honey I ever took, and I did not see one cell of dead brood. Late in the summer of 1889 many a bee-keeper became very much alarmed when he found his brood chamber in a rotten state with dead brood. Spraying of combs, starving the bees, and other methods were resorted to to stamp out the dead brood. If these men had went to work right after that great frost of May the 28th and kept the brood chambers well supplied with unsealed honey through uncapping a part of the old sealed stores one time and part another and so on until the honey flow commenced, they would have had the most of the old honey used up, more space filled with brood, increased the bees and secured a much larger yield of honey and not have any dead brood.

The very wet weather that set in