

that my location was favorable to obtain surplus from this bloom, and as this was to be the bearing year, I decided to make an effort to get it. Therefore, early in the spring I fed meal, thin honey warm, uncapped stores, inserted empty combs, etc., to get a force of workers in time for the bloom, which I expected about May 20th. Right here I would say that feeding meal and thin honey for stimulation works well with me. The season was early and pear and plum trees blossomed about May 1st, and apple trees the 10th. Dandelion and maples had kept the bees at work and for quite a while I had not fed. Just before the height of the bloom I put on boxes alternating rows of boxes containing empty combs with those containing full sheets of foundation, two days later not finding work going on in supers as I had expected I immediately filled out the brood-chamber of some hives with combs of brood from weaker colonies making ten frames almost filled with brood. I also united a few colonies when two stood side by side. Would remove one colony and place the other between where they both stood, then take from the removed colony enough capped brood to give remaining colony ten frames of brood, also brushed nearly all the bees in front of the colony. The removed colony had the combs of honey, the uncapped brood the queen and enough bees to cover the brood and were in shape to build up. The other was ready for immediate work in sections, having brood combs full of capped brood, extra lot of young bees and were obliged to occupy super for want of room elsewhere. The next few days were rainy and it looked as though I should not succeed, but a pleasant Sunday they improved wonderfully, then for several days but a few hours of each day was pleasant. Was then obliged to attend my Apiary in the country and before leaving I examined two hives and took a dozen perfectly finished pound sections from each. The bloom then seemed about over but the weather was pleasant.

On my return several days later the doubled colonies had swarmed, leaving on the old hives from twenty to thirty nicely capped sections, light colored and handsome. One colony furnished thirty-two sections, they were pure natives with a young queen raised late the fall before and had been strengthened with combs of capped brood to fill the hive but no bees. They did not swarm during the season.

By having the boxes on so early, stocks that were not doubled up or strengthened did not swarm and as raspberry etc., the only honey flow of the season, immediately followed, (there is usually a time between the two flows,) I obtained

some surplus from that source, in boxes that were meant to catch apple honey. When clover blossomed, the time when the first boxes are usually put on, drones were being killed and there has been no surplus crop since, except from chestnut and another source which I have not learned. Some of their honey looks dark like tar in the sections and spoils all uncapped sections that were left on the hive. Some one has described a honey which tastes like "oak leaves stirred in molasses," their honey must be the same thing, honey dew. Have extracted some of it from the sections for feeding back in the spring and have let the bees clear out the rest by putting a shallow case of section under my shallow brood chamber. Will speak of these shallow cases of hanging frames that I have used this season in a future article.

To conclude would say that as the season has turned out working for apple honey was a good move, without it I should have little or no choice comb honey this season, but if there had been the flow from clover that the blossoms promised I do not think that I should have gained, as bee power had been used that might have cost less and have been worth more on the clover crop. However this is but the experience of one season in taking honey from this source.

Since writing the above I have made an exhibit of comb honey at the R. I. State Fair where there was a good exhibit of honey, bees, queens, hives and supplies. The judges were experienced bee men. They and bee-keepers generally who tasted the apple honey pronounced it equal or superior to anything they had ever eaten. I was awarded the two first prizes on comb honey and soon sold it to a dealer at a better price than is given for white clover.

The above gives my success. I will yet write of my failure to get honey from golden rod and asters in sections. How I tried and why I failed.

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QUERIES AND REPLIES.

UNDER THIS HEAD will appear Questions which have been asked, and replied to, by prominent and practical bee-keepers—also by the Editor. Only questions of importance should be asked in this Department, and such questions are requested from everyone. As these questions have to be put into type, sent out for answers, and the replies all awaited for, it will take some time in each case to have the answers appear.

WHEN TO PUT BEES IN CELLAR.

QUERY, No. 121.—When wintering in cellar or bee-house, is it better to put bees in when the weather is mild or wait until hard frosts set in?