

hive with frames containing only starters, when, if the supers from the parent hives, in which work has already commenced, is put on in a day or two, work will be resumed in them at once, and a good queen will usually lay in a large part of the comb below as fast as it is built, so the most of the honey brought in is necessarily for some time stored in the sections.

I do not believe there is any other method by which as much honey can be secured in sections; and, in a good season, or during a good flow, a swarm when first hived will bring in much pollen for a few days. Last year the flow, except during the first few days, was very scant and irregular; and as it was those swarms treated the way I have described that put pollen in the sections, it will be seen that this method should not be practiced during a flow in a locality where pollen is as abundant as it is here, for when they cannot secure honey, if pollen is plentiful, they will carry in an excessive amount of it, and must of necessity store it in the sections.

Now, I have not much doubt that two, or possibly one, frame in each hive containing drawn comb, then waiting until considerable comb was built before putting on the sections, would overcome the difficulty, or if no frames containing combs were on hand, a like number filled with foundation would prove effective.

There is so much pollen here that colonies that did not swarm would oftentimes carry it into the sections; but years ago I accidentally learned how to almost entirely overcome this by changing the places of combs in the hive. This was done to discourage swarming.

My practice was, and is largely yet, at the approach of the swarming season to replace the two outside combs with those that contain the most sealed brood, the two from the outside which usually contain a large proportion of what pollen there is in the hive are then placed in the center. If done at the right time this has a tendency to check swarming, and I soon noticed sections over colonies so treated hardly ever contained any pollen. Such an abundance of pollen right in the center of the brood nest may possibly act as a check to their gathering much more for a time. However this may be, there would soon be plenty of room for them to store a large amount again in the two outside combs.

As to sections containing honey but slightly fastened to the wood, I believe there are means by which this can be

largely avoided, no matter what the character of the flow is, and even if only small starters are used. But as this article is already so long I will have to wait to explain my experiments in regard to this matter until some other time.

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Apiculture on the Farm

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The last few years of failing crops in many localities, and ruinously low prices everywhere, have given the tillers of the soil reason to welcome every legitimate means to increase their income from the farm. Frequently the saving of a few dollars, by giving careful attention to some branch of rural husbandry, auxiliary to the main branch of farming, would mark the difference between success and failure.

Few people are well adapted to the cultivation of bees and the production of honey. The sting of the bee is quite painful to some, but cases where it has proven fatal or even serious are very rare, and there is much needless fear of them. Bees, like domestic animals and men, are not usually vicious without cause. They seldom volunteer an attack, and it is rare that they will sting when their hives are not being manipulated or otherwise disturbed. The bee smoker and veil give effectual protection to the person of the operator. After the apiarist becomes accustomed to being among his bees he will not ordinarily care to wear a veil, except when handling colonies that he knows to be vicious.

Apiculture offers good rewards to the careful and progressive farmer, but there is perhaps no other pursuit that suffers so much from neglect and mismanagement. The apiarist should thoroughly familiarize himself with the natural history and habits of the bee, so as to be able to control their reproduction. Rearing of young bees should be stimulated only at that season of the year that will bring the workers of proper age to gather the crop of honey when it comes. The rearing of drones in large numbers should be discouraged and their number controlled, for drones are consumers and not producers. The flora of the territory surrounding the apiary, and in reach of the