

EUROPEAN FOUL BROOD

European Foul Brood is most prevalent in the East, so our risk of infection is from imported bees. It attacks the larvae earlier than does American Foul Brood; hence only a small number of the diseased larvae are ever capped. Those that are capped over have the sunken and perforated appearance as in the case of the American form.

After death the affected larvae turn first yellow, then brown, finally almost black. When the tooth-pick test is tried, the decaying matter very rarely stretches out in a long thread.

There is very little odor from the decaying larvae, and it is not nearly so noticeable as the "glue pot" smell of American Foul Brood. The pure-bred Italian bee seems to be immune to this disease. The remedy, then, is to Italianize your apiary. This can be done by killing the black queens and introducing properly mated Italian queens in their stead.



Red Clover near Gladstone

AMERICAN FOUL BROOD

In ordinary conditions the dead larvae are removed by the workers, and the queen deposits another

egg in the cell. But the odor given off by the larvae that have died of "Foul Brood" appears to overpower even the most enthusiastic workers, so the dead maggots are permitted to remain in the cells.

In American Foul Brood death seems to occur after the cells have been capped over, so when the workers find cells that refuse to hatch they puncture the cappings, in order to remove the dead matter, but are driven from the task by the offensive smell. The first suspicious sign, therefore, is a number of scattered cells whose cappings have been perforated by the workers and left in that condition. Further investigation is necessary. This is done by means of a tooth-pick, a match, or a sliver of wood sharpened to a point. The tooth-pick is pushed into the dead maggot then slowly withdrawn. If the decaying matter adheres to the point of the wood and stretches out like melted glue, then the probability is that American Foul Brood was the cause of death.

A hive affected by American Foul Brood has a very characteristic odor, resembling a poor quality of glue. In the early stages it is not very pronounced but grows stronger as the disease spreads.

It must be understood that these diseases are caused by a specific organism or germ and can not occur spontaneously; but must be introduced into the apiary in some way. Honey is one of the great carriers of disease. The dissemination of the disease is often rapid, because of the fact that the diseased colony is weak-



Many Women are good Beekeepers