

## 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.

QUERY No. 299.—Without separators I wish to use  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $1\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $1\frac{1}{8}$ ,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  sections,  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$ , what width shall I use with separators to get the same quantity in each section, take it for granted the honey flow is average?—F. A.

PROF. A. J. COOK, LANSING, MICH.—There is so much variation, that no sure width can be given.

H. D. CUTTING, CLINTON, MICH.—A section  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$  with separators are the nearest to one pound of any I have used

EUGENE SECOR, FOREST CITY, IOWA.—Without being sure that I am right, never having weighed enough to determine it, I should guess about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch wider when separators are used.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BORODINO, N. Y.—I use sections 2 inches wide, with separators and see no good reason for using any other thickness.

G. A. DEADMAN, BRUSSELS.—I should say allow  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch for the separators.

C. W. POST, MURRAY.—Use sections  $\frac{1}{2}$  wider in all cases to get the same amount of honey.

J. K. DARLING, ALMONTE.—I do not think it can be done except you provide each colony with a weighing apparatus and teach them how to use it.

J. E. POND, NORTH ATTLEBORO, MASS.—You ask too much! I don't know, and don't see how any data to govern can be obtained. Localities differ so, that no positive information can be given, and results in different years vary so, that it is a mere matter of guess work. Test the matter for yourself. The general rule though is to use  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch wide sections with separators to average one pound honey of each.

JAS. HEDDON, DOWAGIAC, MICH.—What will you think of me if I tell you that after sufficient experimenting, I found seven to the foot to be the best width for sections, both with and without separators. The theory that the section should be wider where separators are used, is correct, but in practice it is not. My advice is, adopt seven to the foot sections, and at any rate use but one width both with and without separators. The width which is just right for separators, is also just right without them. Strange but true.

G. W. DEMAREE, CHRISTIANBURG, KY.—I hope you have good reasons that you do not mention,

for using so many widths of sections. I use only one width section as a compromise, and use them with and without separators to my entire satisfaction, and that is the  $1\frac{1}{2}$  section. I know of no other width of section that will answer so well to be used with and without separators.

D. A. JONES, BEETON, ONT.—I could not say positively; probably  $\frac{1}{8}$  to each width would do.

QUERY No. 300.—Do you think the comb honey market may be injured by using too heavy section foundation?—W. B.

PROF. A. J. COOK, LANSING MICH.—I do.

C. W. POST, MURRAY.—Yes.

G. A. DEADMAN, BRUSSELS.—Yes, if it becomes generally known.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BORODINO, N. Y.—I know it has been so injured in some localities, and what has been, may well be supposed to continue under the same circumstances.

J. K. DARLING, ALMONTE.—Certainly, bees will not draw heavy foundation as thin as they will the lighter, and consumers would not like to find a back bone in their honey.

EUGENE SECOR, FOREST CITY, IOWA.—Yes, I do. Only the thinnest should ever be used.

H. D. CUTTING, CLINTON, MICH.—The market may not be injured, but the consumer will in many cases find fault with the amount of wax. No honey producer can afford to use heavy foundations in sections under any considerations.

JAS. HEDDON, DOWAGIAC, MICH.—No. I used foundation from the first mill ever made in this county. For years before a person in this country knew there was such an article. I filled all my sections full of heavy foundations. (heavier than most of our brood foundations of the present) and only one customer ever spoke of a tough comb. I think that was because the bees failed in that case to thin down the foundation.

G. W. DEMAREE, CHRISTIANBURG, KY.—Yes, there is sufficient danger connected with the use of full sheets of foundation to make the honest and prudent honey producer very careful about what sort of surplus foundation he uses. Several years ago a supply dealer filled my order with thick and very yellow surplus foundation, and not having time to send it back, and ordering a nicer and thinner article I used it any how, and that year I had some trouble with customers. Since then I have been very careful to use nothing but the thinnest I can get.

J. E. POND, NORTH ATTLEBORO, MASS.—Yes I do. For section foundations not less than would make 10 sheets, 1 foot square, should be used,