

last. Very much more surplus from basswood than from clover.

6. There are not thistles enough to make a flow, but bees seemed to work on them for about two hours in the morning.

7. There is no buckwheat grown here.

8. Owing to moderate temperature, swarming has not been very prevalent. Some very strong colonies, requiring four and five supers, never offered to swarm or hang out but just kept gathering.

Yours truly,

STEWART SMILLIE.

Bluevale, Huron Co., Ont., Aug. 15, 1896.

Replies to your queries as to bees:

1. Swarms one in twenty in 1895.

2. First-class, mine (some very poorly.)

3. Very rapidly, some swarms on 16th

May.

4. Clover has been good.

5. Basswood flow was extra this year.

6. Thistles not raised here.

7. Two acres of buckwheat is all I know of within a radius of six miles, and that in small patches.

8. Swarming started early and swarms extra strong. All returned but first swarms.

JNO. MILLER.

Owen Sound, Grey Co., Ont., Aug. 18, 1896.

1. Swarming for 1895; none in my yard.

2. Winter loss; 50 per cent in my yard.

3. Our bees in this part increased fast this spring.

4. Any clover we got was I think from Alsike and that was only small.

5. The basswood was grand.

6. There is not enough thistle in our part to be of much value.

7. There is quite a lot of buckwheat close to me. The bees work hard in the mornings but don't seem to get much more than they use for brood-rearing.

8. Swarming for this year was abundant.

JOHN MCEVEN.

Wanderboy P. O.

I received your letter some time ago but delayed replying to your questions, but shall do so now.

1. There were but few swarms last year.

2. Bees wintered fairly well.

3. They built up very well in the spring.

4. The clover flow was fair.

5. The flow from basswood was light.

6. The farmers here look on the thistle

as an enemy and treat it accordingly, so there is no thistle honey gathered here.

7. When buckwheat first came into bloom bees worked on it but seem to have given up in disgust as they got nothing from it of any account.

8. Swarming was not excessive with me but have heard some complaints about swarming and stinging, but I could find no fault with mine: of course there were days when they were cross, and I would be the same if my house was pulled down and my winter stores carried away.

Yours truly,

ALEX BLACK.

Sonya, Ont., Aug. 21, 1896.

Your letter to hand requesting me to answer a few questions in regard to bees and honey in our locality. I will endeavor to do so to the best of my ability, judging from my own apiary as I am the only one in this locality who uses the moveable comb hive.

1. Swarming in 1895 was very good.

2. Bees wintered good—could not ask for better.

3. Bees built up well in the spring.

4. Clover flow very poor—did not last long—weather too dry and hot.

5. Basswood flow has been excellent—best that it has been for a number of years.

6. Thistle flow not much of any account.

7. Prospects for buckwheat are poor in this locality.

8. Swarming this year has been all that could be desired for those who were after increase.

W. F. M. NAIRN.

Millie Roches, Ont., Aug. 13, 1896.

1. No swarming.

2. Good.

3. Poorly.

4. Middling.

5. Very Fair.

6. Not much.

7. None.

8. Too much.

CHAS. BROWN.

Drumquinn, Halton Co. Ont.

I am always glad to speak on the Bee Subject. In 1895 my bees did as well as I could expect for the dry season. I got 3 hives from Mr. I. Gould, of Brantford, and one swarmed 2. The other two did not swarm but gave me a good supply of honey. Basswood is in abundance here and buckwheat is sown by most all our farmers