

## DISTANCE OF COMBS IN SUMMER.

What distance should combs be apart during the swarming season and the honey flow?

If you extract from the brood combs they may be left  $1\frac{1}{2}$  or  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches apart; if from store combs they may be left two inches apart.

## WEIGHT FOR WINTER.

How much should a frame hive weigh with seven frames to have enough honey for winter and when must we weigh the hives in order to see if they have enough honey for winter?

Weigh the hives after the first frost comes in the fall. They should weigh, when put into winter quarters, 60 to 65 pounds, hive and all.

## SPRING DWINDLING.

What does "spring dwindling" mean?

If you do not know from experience what "spring dwindling" means, we hope you never may. It is the dying off of bees in the spring in such numbers, from old age and other causes, as to depopulate the hive to such an extent that the colony cannot carry on brooding.

## BALLING QUEENS.

What does "balling" a queen mean?

It means that bees becoming irritated cluster around the queen and try to sting or smother her. We would advise you to read any of the standard works on bee-keeping, all of which give information regarding these points.

## FERTILIZING QUEENS.

I saw in the C. B. J. some lines on queen nursery, (No. 25, page 357.) you say you prefer to have them fertilized before ten days old. Let us suppose I remove a cell from the hive, I am raising from and cage her; if she hatches the next day, how long should I keep her in the said nursery before having her fertilized. I ask you that question because I saw in a bee book (Huber) if a queen is confined, she can fly as soon as she goes out of her cell and get fertilized, whilst those who have not been confined, born after 16 days, cannot fly, but two or three days after and get fertilized six or seven days after her birth in time.

Some of the ancient works on apiculture are not reliable on all points. We usually introduce the queens from three to six days after hatching or they may be liberated at once but do not become fertile until that period has elapsed.

## FEEDING QUEENS WHEN CAGED.

How much food should I give to the queen when caged and what kind?

A few cells of honey is sufficient; if she has young bees with her, sugar and honey mixed will do.

## RIPENING HONEY.

Is it necessary that the honey be ripened before putting it into tins like yours?

Honey should be ripened before it is canned up for market.

## FEEDING IN FALL.

How do you manage to feed with Canadian feeder for fall feeding? The feeder is 12 inches long by 7 inches wide, whilst the hive is 18 inches by  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches, there are 11 inches left uncovered.

The dimensions you have given us are of the winter feeder. The Canadian feeder is larger. Either one sets on top of the frames and is packed around with a quilt or cloth to prevent the bees coming up.

## TIME OF FALL FEEDING.

Towards what date do you feed your bees to complete their winter store when they want any? There must be about one month difference between your place and here.

We feed our bees as soon as the fall flow is over, or as soon as the first frost arrives which destroys the flowers.

## ORDERING FOUNDATION.

It is too cold in March to order foundation?

You can order foundation at any time, but it is best not to ship until warm weather, in fact we ship in cold weather entirely at the risk of the purchaser, as it is very liable to be broken in transit.

## MOVING BEES FROM CLAMP TO CELLAR IN WINTER.

R. H. STEPHENSON.—I have three hives that want feeding, they are in clamp. I have a good cellar and was thinking of taking those three out of the clamp and putting them in the cellar to feed them there. Please answer through the JOURNAL and oblige.

North Bruce, Jan. 16th., 1886.

If you carry the hives into the cellar you will need to exercise much care in order that they may not be disturbed, then feed them on the candy, as described in back numbers of the JOURNAL. The cellar should be kept at a temperature not below forty-five degrees; it might be allowed to run as high as fifty degrees without injury.

## A FRAME FOR WINTERING PURPOSES.

J. A. MANNING.—Am very much pleased with the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL. Enclosed I send you drawing of a rack which I have invented for