

nuclei, or otherwise cared for, so that all are saved. When the cells are taken away, go to the colony to which you gave the most of the brood taken from this first colony used in queen-rearing, and get the frame of brood having the queen on it, taking bees and all; then take out two more frames of brood, and shake the bees off them, letting them (the bees) run into the hive, after which adjust the frames and use this colony to rear the next set of queen-cells from.

Now take the three combs and set them in the hive from which you took the cells, and hang the comb the queen is on between the two combs of brood, closing the hive. In this way colonies which rear queens are kept queenless only about twelve days, which is quite an item at this time of the year. This is the only plan that I know of by which good queens can be reared very early in the season.

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From The Bee Keepers Advance.

ALBINISM IN BEES.

ALBINOS are animals that from some cause fail to secrete the coloring matter peculiar to the species, and are consequently white.

It generally extends over the whole surface of the body, even to the hair and eyes, the eye being red, but in more instances, particularly where the animal is partly colored, or has different tints or spots, to only a part of the body, or to extinguish only one color.

Melanism is just the opposite of Albinism, and is the undue development of coloring matter in its skin and its appendages, rendering the animal black. Both of these aberrations are common to insects, as well as plants and all animals.

Among the Italian bees melanism is not very uncommon; in fact, there are few pure colonies that do not have among them workers with black tips to their abdomens and black corslets, and some of the best queens have been melanos. In most instances albinism occurs among the drones. S. W. Cole, of Tennessee, had a colony that produced all its drones perfectly white, while the workers were of the usual colors.

Albinos are generally larger than the normal size of the species, while melanos are smaller. Apiarians who have handled many queens of dark or German bees have met with ink-black specimens which were in every case small, lively queens, though her worker progeny were large gray bees with only an occasional melano.

The singular phenomenon that first called attention to the breeding of the so-called "Albino bees" were the white drones that were bred in

Mr. Cole's apiary, the progeny of a fine Italian queen, in 1872 or thereabouts. In 1874 Mr. D. A. Pike, of Maryland, noticed two distinct races—as he put it—of bees working in one of his hives, one of which were beautifully marked Italians and the other, about equal in numbers, had three beautiful yellow bands; from the last band to the end of the bee it was quite white. Clearly this was evidence that Italians are cross-bred bees. It is said that Italian bees are liable to sport when bred in this country and show the albino directly.

There have been instances other than the two I have mentioned showing well defined albinism in bees. S. Valentine, of Hagarstown Md., who is an experienced queen breeder and a strictly reliable man, claims that he possessed an Italian colony that bred bees colored white except the usual yellow bands. He continued to breed from his peculiarly marked white and yellow bees with a view to render permanent a strain superior in all desirable points, including fancy. His efforts and aim were a success in producing a strain of a quiet nature and most as harmless as stingless bees, compared with Cyprians. I obtained Albino queens of Mr. Valentine eight years ago that produced uniform progeny. I have read of other strains of Albino bees but know nothing about their peculiarities.

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THE BEE MOTH.

THE moths of this insect (*Galleria cerana*) are about three-fourths of an inch long, with wings that expand about one and one-fourth inches. The color is a dusky-gray, the fore-wings sprinkled with purple-brown. They harmonize so well in color with the old boards that they are very readily passed unobserved. Females are generally larger than males. The tongue is quite short, but the palpi, two of the mouth parts, are prolonged into a kind of snout, which is often mistaken for the tongue.

The female, by means of her telescopic ovipositor, easily places her small, white globular eggs underneath or about the entrance to the hive. Soon the eggs hatch, producing dirty-looking larvæ, ash-gray above and yellow-white beneath, and having brown heads. As soon as they hatch, the worms commence to spin silken tubes for their protection, enlarging the tubes as they increase in size. The worms feed on wax, cutting their way right through the comb and destroying young bees in their course. Their