

it will be found that some of the colonies will be very tardy about taking their feed, besides this, when fed so late it gives the bees no chance to ripen and cap their stores and get them properly placed in their hives for winter. Many bee-keepers I fear, seriously err in this respect.

In the experience of the writer neither the very weak, nor the very strong colonies winter best, but colonies having a good average strength of young bees, good queens, abundance of stores, and occupying from six to eight Langstroth combs or their equivalent, the rest of the space in their hives being completely occupied with fillers or packing. Such colonies can be packed if to be wintered outside, or placed in their winter repository if to be wintered inside, with a reasonable expectancy of their wintering all right, and if properly managed, doing well the season following.

It is not only necessary to winter our bees well, but to see to it that each colony is now provided with abundance of stores and a good queen for the spring following, and in proportion as we fail to provide these now, will our failure to obtain a honey crop the season following be guaranteed. Good wintering, good queens and abundance of stores in the spring, are the foundation stones upon which our management for a successful season's work is built, and they are all laid during the latter part of the season previous.

Some having but a few colonies may not have access to a large feeder, in which case fairly good results may be obtained as follows. Empty a surplus case of all its frames and place it on top of the hive when ready to be fed, inside of this and immediately on top of the brood frames place a large bread or other shallow pan. At sundown pour into this pan

the milk warm syrup or honey and sprinkle a handful of short grass over the liquid to prevent the bees drowning in it; daub a little of the syrup over the tops of the frames and sides of the pan to attract the bees, cover over tightly the tops of the surplus case so that no bees can get either in or out of it, and by morning it will be found, that the bees have emptied the pan inside.

### Moths in Combs.

Of all the diseases, pests, and enemies which bees and bee-keepers have to contend against, I think there is nothing so prevalent and so troublesome as the wax-moth.

In this district, at any rate, foul brood is decidedly uncommon. I have examined a large number of hives in the course of the season and in various parts of the country, but I rarely come across a case of disease; whereas, I never open a hive without seeing at least some evidence of the wax-moth.

In my own apiary this has been a record season for wax-moth, and I have devoted more time to combat it than I could reasonably spare in what has been to me a busy honey season. A strong stock of bees can generally take care of their own combs, but they will only take care of the combs they cover, and one superfluous comb will sometimes prove a veritable nursery for the pest, the warmth of the hive conducing largely to its development.

Unless a bee-keeper can preserve his empty combs from one season to another, bee-keeping will certainly never pay, and it is these empty combs which the wax-moth can most easily get at, because the ever-watchful bees are not there to protect them.

This season I placed a few combs in an empty hive, closed up the