

yet devised by which we can take the swarming instinct (desire) out of bees (a colony) when conditions are right to develop it, and the conditions are just those that are the best for putting up the honey, as the conditions become just right for honey storage and you have all the necessary factors for swarming. Now, if we swarm them and leave them without brood, just as a natural swarm would be, you have fixed them sure; that is all that is needed, and that forced swarming does.

But in some fields there are conditions that bring about the swarming desire before the flow that gives the surplus comes, and there we must make variations of methods to suit locality. This locality question is no humbug, yet it in no way interferes with principles—bees one place will do just as bees in any other place will; it is the difference in conditions that makes the difference in results. This being true, all we want to know is bee nature and then apply the method that brings the results desired UNDER OUR OWN CONDITIONS of locality or of season, for scarcely any two seasons are alike.

The control of swarming outside of the regular flow when they are not storing surplus, is a different thing from the control when a strong flow is on and surplus work going on. In the full flow the conditions are intensified in almost every factor, better feeding, more eggs to lay and less place to lay them, the greater activity causing greater heat and discomfort, combs filled with honey make a still more crowded condition, which is still more aggravated by full honey sacks that so swell the mass of bees that they actually need—I say actually NEED more room than they did possibly only two days before, when there was little or nothing being gathered. Under the less intense conditions previous to the main flow they will yield

to milder methods of discouragement. At this time we may give much brood-chamber room, which of course will not interfere with the super storage since it is not going on at all. Much ventilation may also be used. In extreme cases, where there seems to be almost a mania to swarm, we can divide if need be, holding the colony so reduced in numbers that they will not swarm. Then, too, if there be almost nothing being gathered, yet the colonies are very strong and the weather hot—just enough of swarming factors present to cause swarming fever in many colonies, just rob them of most of their stores, bringing them to a semi-starvation condition and that usually will hold them.

Right here, let me still more emphatically endorse what Mr. Adams says about tinkering and fussing before the flow begins when we are getting ready. We can afford at this time to do lots of it, and it will pay; but when the main flow comes, then we must turn everything to one point, that is storing surplus and doing it right. Only strong colonies with a big S will do this. If we have had to divide before this to hold them from swarming now is the time to double them, and as we usually just at this time have all the swarm conditions and in the tense state we must use heroic methods, just swarm them, putting enough bees to a hive with starters only that you will get the results sought for, thus you absolutely control and become master.

I say use starters, foundation too expensive altogether, and doesn't do good except when the flow is very free, when it will enable them to get combs ready sooner. With starters the most of the combs will be worked and the next spring the drone can be culled out and used for chunk honey extracted by the machine, or put in

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