

It is found good practice by many of our most successful beekeepers to leave extracting supers on the hives as long as the bees are liable to be gathering anything. When the supers are removed this takes away most of the honey they have been storing, leaving the brood-chambers rather light and ready for a heavy feed of sugar syrup. Each colony is then fed as much sugar syrup as it will take up to 40 or 50 pounds. It is then known to be in good condition so far as the stores are concerned.

THE HIVE.

The hive should be suited to the size of the cluster. It should be either warmly packed with good, dry material or placed in a cellar, and should be well ventilated. The entrance should never be closed, but should be contracted if sufficient upward ventilation is given. Those who practice wintering with sealed covers leave the entrances much larger than those who have upward ventilation. It is better to have the entrances so arranged that mice cannot enter the hive during winter. An entrance not more than $\frac{3}{8}$ inch wide will make this practically sure.

THE LOCATION.

This is, to a large extent, beyond the control of the average beekeeper. He keeps his bees where he lives. But for commercial beekeeping great care should be exercised in choosing a locality. While the presence of an abundant honey flora is the first consideration, spring sources of nectar and pollen play an important part in bringing the colonies up to the main honey flow in the best of condition.

The latitude does not make so much difference as one might think. Colonies properly put away seem to winter about as well in the north as in the south of Ontario, only of course the northern bees require more protection and consume more food.

For outside wintering the apiary should be dry and sunny, and especially should be sheltered from cold winds. If a natural windbreak is not available an artificial one of some kind should be put up. Some use a latticed fence six or eight feet high. When sheltered from winds this way it does not matter very much which way the hives face. Many prefer a southern exposure, but it is largely a matter of convenience. In some apiary arrangements, where alternate rows face in opposite directions, the rows are placed to run north and south facing the hives east and west. This gives every entrance some sun during the day. Naturally the northern entrance is more objectionable than any other. An apiary in winter should not be disturbed by cattle or other things travelling about and jarring the hives. Complete quiet and absence of outside disturbance is one of the important factors in successful wintering. Where bees are wintered in a cellar the place should be kept dry and totally dark. It should be carefully ventilated to keep the air sweet at all times, and the temperature should be kept at about 40° to 45° F. The rule of avoiding disturbance applies even more to cellar than to outside wintered bees.