

another comb, and filled that with honey, and sealed the cells the second time. I discovered it when I came to extract, but the bases of the outer row of cells were flat, not natural based, as illustrated in *Gleanings* for April 15.

EXTRACTING FROM COMBS THAT HAVE BEEN USED FOR BREEDING.

Breeding in the combs toughens them considerably, and they will bear the extractor much better, but the color of the honey is not so fine, and the bees are far more disposed to store pollen in them than they are cells that have not been bred in. The top corner cells of the frames in the brood-nest are, I may say, never bred in. Did anyone ever see any pollen stored in them? Consequently I do not use frames for extracting if they are pollen-laden and brood-stained the previous year. I have to be very careful over my honey, as I have a good private trade and command my price. I can make one shilling per section of the comb honey, and the same price per pound for the extracted when put up in white flint glass bottles. I do not mind telling you, as you are not near me to compete with me for price, I allow a storekeeper, who sells about half my crop, about 15 per cent. discount for his trouble and risk, and am usually cleared out by Christmas.

I am well content with my harvest, although I have sold lots of bees to a dealer who took as many swarms and queens as I cared to sell, consequently I allowed them to swarm as they chose, and even my nuclei stored surplus some days while the queens were being fertilized. I have had 200 acres in my radius, of white and alsike clover and the largest tract lay to the northwest of my bees, and they have had to cross a high road to get at it, and I have been called out by passers-by, who have insisted they were swarming, as they boom backward and forward after this clover honey.

Nature has evidently righted the mortality of last year by causing bees to swarm excessively this year, and the good yield has induced many faint-hearted ones to hold on and not give up yet.—AMATEUR EXPERT, in *Gleanings*.

Care of Honey.

ALL marketable honey should be removed from the hives at the close of the flow. Comb honey, if left on the hive, will become soiled and dark, and its bright appearance as a first-class, marketable article will be damaged, hence it should be removed.

If any extracting is to be done, it also should be done at once, and not be left to a later day, as it will be found very difficult to uncap and

extract honey at a time of dearth. Some very important work is to be done in fixing bees up properly at the closing of the honey season. We very often find queenless colonies now, especially if much swarming is done, and all such colonies are a bait for robbers, and they seldom fail to find them.

After the close of the honey-flow the bees seem to have mania for robbing, and if we carelessly leave colonies in such condition as not to be able to protect themselves, robbing is sure to follow; and if once they get well started at it, they will give trouble throughout the entire season. Hence, take precaution in time and prevent this difficulty.

Examine every colony and ascertain if they have a fertile queen, there should be brood in all stages now, if the queen is all right. If this cannot be found, something is wrong.

Do not leave surplus honey around where the bees have access to it. You may think that you have stored it away in some house or building, but it must be very securely stored, or the bees will find it; and if they once get a taste, they will bother your dwelling-houses and prove a pest to your neighbors; hence prevent all such, by closing everything well, and making all things secure as you go.

After the close of the honey season, market your comb honey if you can get a fair price for it. If not, hold it. It may be kept in good condition, but must receive the best of care. Look out for ants, as they are very destructive. They will puncture the cappings and ruin your crop. Place your comb honey on tables with their feet set in basins of water and a risen oil. In this manner the ants cannot reach it. Cover the honey with thin muslin to keep the dust off, and also give it light. Never put honey of any kind in a cellar or underground repositories of any kind. Keep it high and dry. The garret is better than the cellar.

Heat will not injure honey, it will only tend to ripen it into a better quality.

Do not put extracted honey into tight receptacles until it is thoroughly ripened. Leave an air-hole for the gas to escape.—Farmer and Poultry Raiser.

Many bee-keepers get a little careless towards the last of the season, and allow the grass and weeds to grow up and obstruct the entrances. This is a great mistake as it makes the apiary look slovenly, and, besides, is a great annoyance to the bees. A bee's wings vibrating at such a wonderful rate are easily injured and worn by beating against the grass. When a bee's wings are worn out it is of no further use, and are speedily lost and die. Keep the apiary trimmed up.