

CROP REPORT.

J. E. Farr.

My honey crop report is as follows: Seven hundred of early dark; thirty-four hundred of buckwheat; forty-five hundred of clover honey; making a total of eighty-six hundred pounds from sixty-five colonies, spring count. I also increased my number to one hundred and five colonies, which I packed up on their summer stands for winter.

Following is my plan of riding a colony of lay workers: Take a clean hive with no scent of bees in it, shake the colony that has laying workers into new hive on full sheet of foundation at the same operation introduce a laying queen, in an introducing cage, and your work is done.

NOVEMBER CROP BULLETIN.

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culling out of poor milking cows. Correspondents in the counties of Leeds and Grenville, report that under the new U. S. tariff a large quantity of cream is now being exported across the border, even some of our cheese factories preferring to separate their milk for that purpose. Three hundred correspondents have reported as to the favorite breed of dairy cow (including grades), and the four leading classes now rank in the following proportion for the province: Holstein 8; Shorthorns 6; Ayrshires 3; Jerseys 2. In western Ontario, however, Shorthorns still lead Holsteins in the ratio of 5 to 4. The Ayrshires' popularity is mainly in the St. Lawrence and Ottawa counties.

Poultry—Good prices for fowl for the table and equally good prices for eggs, notwithstanding the high prices of grain, are encouraging farmers to give more attention to poultry raising, and correspondents have more to say about the subject than ever before, several claiming that poultry raising is one of the best paying branches of live stock on the farm.

While some speak well of turkeys, there are a number of complaints of a heavy mortality early in the season among the young birds, and it is likely that there will be a scarcity for the winter market. With this exception, but little mention was made of disease among fowl this year.

Farm Labor—There was a sufficiency of farm labor, generally speaking, although here and there a scarcity was reported. The quality of much of the labor offered was not up to the standard, and as many of the trained native born farm hands are going to the west and the north the question of the fitness of those taking their places is becoming serious. Complaints are made, and sometimes in very strong language, that many of the immigrants seeking employment on the farms are failures, although some are giving excellent satisfaction. The wages of farm laborers are not likely to rise, but rather to fall, judging by the remarks of correspondents, who hold that farmers cannot afford to pay more, and will not get more improved machinery and exchange help with their neighbors, seed more grass, and raise more live stock, to lighten labor. The domestic servant question has not yet found a satisfactory answer. The farmer's wife finds it as difficult as ever to procure extra help for her home tasks.

Threshing and Marketing—Threshing was well advanced as correspondents wrote; in fact, it was finished in many cases. A dollar a bushel for wheat was coaxing a moderate quantity of the grain into the market, and some are evidently holding back for even better prices; but a majority are keeping a bulk of their wheat, barley, oats and other grains to feed to live stock.

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