

The Apiary.

SPRING MANAGEMENT.

To get a large force of worker bees in every colony by June 1 is the great desire of most bee-keepers, as it is then that the white clover begins to yield its nectar. The amount of brood that is reared depends considerably on the amount of food the colony has, and nothing is equal to honey given to them in the fall to promote rapid breeding in spring. If last October each colony prepared for outside wintering was supplied with 30 lbs of honey and they have come through the winter quiet and showing little signs of dysentery, they will no doubt have plenty of honey in the spring; if any are short, exchange two or three of their empty combs for full ones kept over in a warm room from last year; if you haven't these, fill some empty combs with warm honey or syrup. To do this, lay the empty combs in a pan or tray, pouring the honey from a dipper through a tin can, the bottom of which has been perforated with small holes.

Aside from food in abundance, warmth is one great thing needed to promote safe, early breeding, with the covers sealed, the winter packing surrounding the hive and the entrance contracted to $\frac{1}{2}$ in at one side, they are in good condition to with stand the changeable weather of spring. Leave the winter packing on till June, and last but not least keep them quiet, don't feed outside or anywhere if possible; it excites them, causing unnecessary loss of vitality, for they can gather nectar and pollen from skunk cabbage, pussy willow, maples and many other trees and shrubs early enough for their own good.—[T. E. Brahmard, Elgin Co, Ont.]

GIVE THE BEES WATER.

Watering bees is of considerable benefit, and I would as soon think of allowing other stock to roam the country in quest of water as the bees. During winter, the moisture that condenses in the hive furnishes the colony water, but during the early spring these condensations cease. They begin brood rearing early, and in order to prepare food for the young larvae, must have water. The most vigorous bees go forth in quest of water, and it at some brook or tank where it is ice cold, fill themselves and are chilled, and do not get back to the hive.

Every careful bee-keeper well knows that one bee in early spring is of more value than half a hundred later on. In order to prevent spring dwindling, we take one of the Mason half-gallon fruit jars, remove the screw top, take a $\frac{3}{4}$ -in board 4 in square and with a small gouge or knife cut a groove nearly from one extreme corner to the other, taking care not to cut quite to the corner. We fill the jar with water, place the board over the mouth, invert all quickly and place in convenient places in the apiary. When the sun shines sufficiently so that bees can fly it will also warm the water through the glass, and we are always able to give them what they most desire, pure, warm water, and no one until they have given this a trial will fully realize how much water a single colony will use during the height of brood-rearing. In order to draw them from the old watering place it may be necessary to slightly sweeten the water for a day or two.—[E. Whitcomb, Saline Co, Neb.]

American Fruits at Paris—Much good should result from the exhibit to be made at the exposition of 1900 under the care of the dept of agri. A thorough system is to be employed in making known American fruits to visitors, particularly such varieties as are suitable for the export trade. Cold storage facilities will be afforded for apples, oranges, peaches, grapes, plums, etc.

Russia Buys Harvesters—Exports of these machines are reported very heavy, destined for Russian ports, to take care of next year's crops.

For Potato Planting, the more uniform the cutting of the seed the more perfect the action of the potato planter, the easier the work of the feeder, the better and more uniform the stand and future growth of the plants and the result a better crop.

THE AMERICAN AND FOREIGN PRODUCE MARKETS AT A GLANCE

The highest quotations of wholesale prices for standard grades of farm produce in the leading markets of the world on the dates named; poorer stuff lower.

	Boston	New York	Chicago	Cincinnati	N Orleans	Memphis	S Francisco	Montreal	London
February	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
Wheat, p bu,	—	70 $\frac{1}{2}$	67	73 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	11.00	60 $\frac{1}{4}$	87 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn, p bu,	—	42 $\frac{1}{4}$	35 $\frac{1}{2}$	34	43	42	11.00	36	50
Oats, p bu,	—	29 $\frac{1}{2}$	23 $\frac{1}{2}$	26	31	32	11.15	31	—
Rye, p bu,	—	62	54 $\frac{1}{2}$	65	—	—	11.00	61	—
Barley, p bu,	—	54	43	—	—	—	1.50	52	—
Flour, p bbl,	4.10	4.00	4.00	3.95	4.00	4.50	3.75	4.00	—
Cotton, mid upland, p lb,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cattle, p 100 lbs 1 w,	6.50	6.55	6.35	5.60	4.50	4.00	4.50	—	13.25
Sheep, p 100 lbs 1 w,	6.25	6.30	6.00	5.25	4.25	—	5.00	—	12.25
Hogs, p 100 lbs 1 w,	8.75	8.85	8.75	8.05	4.25	4.00	8.75	4.75	—
Veal calves, p 100 lbs 1 w,	7.00	8.50	7.50	7.25	8.00	—	6.00	—	—
Fowls, p lb 4 w,	—	12	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	10	11.25	13.50	15.00	—	—
Butter, creamery, p lb,	—	25	24	25	25	27	25	23	—
Cheese, factory, p lb,	—	13	12	13	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	15	15	12	14 $\frac{1}{2}$
Eggs, p dz,	—	16	15	13	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	13	10	17	21
Apples, p bbl,	3.75	4.00	3.75	3.60	5.60	4.50	4.75	—	—
Hay, p ton,	17.00	17.00	12.00	13.00	18.00	16.00	10.00	10.50	—
Straw, rye, p ton,	14.00	16.00	8.00	7.00	—	—	—	4.50	—
Hops, p lb,	—	15	14	—	—	—	—	13	16
Onions, p bu,	—	45	43	45	45	55	12.25	—	—
Cranberries, p bbl,	9.00	9.70	8.00	8.50	—	16.00	—	—	—
Potatoes, p bu,	—	65	60	59	65	75	11.15	50	—
Beef, p lb 4 w,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
Pork, p lb 4 w,	—	—	5.75	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lard, p lb,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hides, p lb,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* P box. † P oz. ‡ P cental. § Estimated dressed weight.

Business Side of Farming.

LIVE STOCK TRAFFIC GOOD.

No branch of the live stock markets has been more active and strong than sheep, the month of Feb proving highly satisfactory to farmers having butchers' stuff to sell. Extra good lambs have touched \$7.25 p 100 lbs at Chicago and \$5.50 at Buffalo, with best wethers and yearlings quotable around 5.75 @ 6.50. The trade wants strictly choice mutton and seems willing to pay good prices for same, although in some directions it is believed the recent level will not be passed. Farmers are buying stock sheep with considerable freedom.

At most of the northern markets hogs have sold at 5c to a shade better, although packers object to paying the price named. The situation, as a whole, has not changed and the undertone of the market one of confidence in continued fairly good prices, as there is a liberal home and foreign demand for pork product. Fat cattle are selling much as a year ago, but 50¢ to 75¢ higher than two years ago. A moderate demand exists for feeders, yet farmers naturally consider prices asked relatively high compared with what they may reasonably expect to secure for good beefs when returned to the markets later in the season.

FULL GRAIN ACREAGE.

In the grain growing sections of the country, and this includes pretty nearly every state from Wash to Va, farmers are rapidly completing their plans for the coming campaign. While prices in some instances have not been wholly satisfactory, there is no doubt but the acreage of all staples will be a full one. The wheat market has ruled dull, but values substantially steady and the situation not considered bearish. Should the winter wheat now in the ground show frost damage, spring wheat area will, no doubt, be a liberal one. The latter, however, will be cut into somewhat by flax, farmers in the northwest having secured the best prices in years for the biggest crop of flax ever raised. The export trade in wheat and flour is liberal, but not especially significant.

The corn crop of '99 is passing out of sight at a rapid rate. Our exports are liberal and gratifying. The government will make special effort this sum-

mer at Paris to further exploit the merits of this great staple crop, co-operating in this with the American Maize Propaganda. Farmers are feeding corn freely, as present prices for live stock offer encouragement to make cattle, hogs and sheep fat and prime. The oats market has continued dull and steady, rye do, barley quiet but strong.

Binding Twine Next Summer may be higher, providing there is a corner in manila hemp, as now seems possible. The supply of this raw material in the U S is almost exhausted, but other fibers may be employed to largely take the place of this. Furthermore, accumulations at Philippine ports may be released and shipped before spring, this relieving the situation.

Broom Corn is attracting much attention even in sections where it is not commonly grown. This points to an almost certain overproduction, followed by ruinously low prices. The demand at best is limited and an increased acreage is to be discouraged. A nice self-working now sells around \$15 p ton, with few dwarf 200 down to 190.

Fair Apple Exports—Foreign shipments of apples from U S and Canadian ports are slightly above those of the same period last year, amounting to about 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ millions bbls this year to date sent to Liverpool, London, Glasgow.

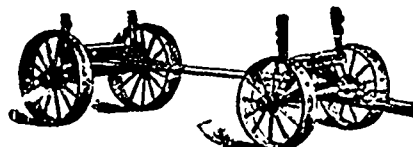
Packing Dressed Poultry during late winter months requires skill. The animal heat must all be out, but freezing is not allowable. With comparatively warm days and sharp nights packers are apt to be caught.

The Federal Census of 1900 is already under way in a preliminary manner. The bureau is sending out special advance inquiries to cranberry growers and persons engaged in floriculture, asking for certain information which should be cheerfully granted in order to make the census the best one ever undertaken.

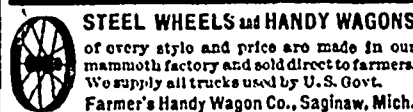
For Dairy Supplies no house is more courteous and reliable for our readers to do business with than the De Laval Separator Co of 74 Cortlandt St, New York. Their new dairy supply catalog for 1900 has just been issued and will be cheerfully sent any of our readers who write for it and mention this paper.

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