

We had taken cards of brood from the more prolific, placing them in the hives of less prolific and failing queens, so that, with very few exceptions, each colony had about eight combs of brood, some having the whole nine filled, others having but seven; but the average was between seven and eight solid combs of brood. All cells in brood chamber free of brood, were at once filled with honey and lengthened. The old section in the supers ditto, while the foundation was being drawn.

The thickening of the combs and the increased activity and heat only crowded more bees into the supers, so we had to add more supers, until four and five supers would not keep some colonies from lying out. The weather was not exceedingly hot, seldom going above 95° in the hottest part of the day; the nights always being cool. We also gave ventilation, by blocking up the hives in front,  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch;  $\frac{3}{4}$  however, is too much, because some combs will be built under frames.

By clipping cells we thought to hold them perhaps ten days longer, but in this we made a mistake, for after the cells were clipped, they would swarm without waiting to rebuild the cells. The bees were in three apiaries, and to make sure that no swarms would get away we had previously clipped the queens' wings. When we saw we could no longer hold them we at once began to remove queens, killing some and making nuclei with others, building the nuclei up to full colonies as the season passed. Nine or ten days after removing the queens (every cell being carefully clipped at time of removing) all cells, save one, were clipped from each hive, and each colony allowed to requeen. After the final clipping of cells, we would remove finished supers and put on emptys, always putting the fresh one at the bottom, until toward the end of flow, when some were added at top; much depending on strength of colony.

No sections were handled singly, each super being left on until finished. As supers were finished they were removed to the honey house and stored just as taken from the hive. At the wind up, whatever sections were unfinished were extracted and kept over for the next season. If a colony failed to requeen itself because of losing a young queen, we took away the honey and let the bees work themselves to death laying in a new supply of honey or trying to do so.

Here is the result of our work: Bees were in three apiaries; home yard, No. 1, and No. 2. Home yard run for extracted honey, Nos. 1 and 2 for comb honey.

YARD No. 1		65 COLONIES.	
2	Colonies gave each	28	pounds
2	" " " "	56	"
12	" " " "	84	"
14	" " " "	112	"
21	" " " "	140	"
10	" " " "	168	"
3	" " " "	196	"
1	" " " "	224	"
Average 127 lbs. (Increased to 80 colonies.)			

YARD No. 2.		60 COLONIES.	
23	Colonies gave each	212	pounds
23	" " " "	140	"
9	" " " "	168	"
4	" " " "	224	"
1	" " " "	252	"
Average 140 lbs. (Increased to 70 colonies.)			

Took some extracted from increase in both apiaries. Average for the three yards, 150 pounds, spring count. The total crop was twelve tons and brought us \$2,700 last fall at wholesale.

Now, don't say this success was because of location or extra honey flow. It was not. The flow lasted about fifty days. The bees never made a living up to the opening of the flow; neither did they after the close of it. All the surplus and their living for the succeeding ten months, was put in during that time. If it had been the result of an extra honey flow, why did not other apiaries in the same fields show it? The very best yields from other apiaries were only about one-half the above. Summed up, here is what gave us success, Winter and spring protection, getting rousing colonies by spreading brood, evening up and feeding when necessary, allowing no colony to swarm, removing the queens during the honey-flow and by doing everything at the right time.

Remember that "work well done is twice done." Observe in the report, that 2 colonies gave each 28 pounds. One of these swarmed and skipped (we must have missed queen in clipping) and the other superceded its queen just when the queen ought to have been doing her best. Had all swarmed; how it would have lessened the yield. There was lots of work about this, but the increase in yield more than paid for all the work done securing the whole crop.

Don't slight your work. When you get a strong colony don't divide or allow it to swarm. Those bees that would be kept at home in the new hive should be sent to the fields to gather honey and the expense of a new hive saved. Double gain, do you see? Take away queens during the flow, you can't hold them unless you do—*Bee Keeper Review.*