

fixed from all after swarming, as I only leave just enough bees to care for the brood, and it's surprising how few it takes, as the brood is hatching very fast at that time of the year.

The new swarm on the old stand having received all the working force, and in fact more bees than a natural swarm, will give a good account of itself.

The first time going over them (after your established date) you will perhaps find from six to ten per cent that show a disposition to swarm; the next time from twelve to fifteen per cent; the next time, which is the third week of swarming, back to from five to ten per cent; the next visit should practically close the season.

If the swarms in the parent hives are not satisfactory when the brood is hatched, I unite them so they will be in condition for the August flow, which you know is generally quite good with us.

As I said before, this plan means work, for when you step into an apiary of, say, 125 colonies, all supered, and thoroughly go through them all and make from ten to fifteen swarms (after finding the queens) and properly level up the hives and leave the apiary in good condition and safe to leave for another six days, you will admit you have done a day's work, even with a good helper.

Some will say it's not safe to leave them that long and that swarms will be lost. I say no, not if every swarm is shaken that has eggs in the cell cups. My experience is that very few colonies in normal condition cast swarms until they are good and ready.

I have not given much of minor detail for the execution of this plan as my time is now limited.

Swarming at the best is one provoking and perplexing feature of the season's work, and my motto in producing comb honey is to have as little

increase as possible, but when a colony wants to swarm, I swarm it, and the above plan is more satisfactory to me than to hire some man or boy to go to sleep under a tree and allow many more swarms to abscond than by the above method.

Of course, this method has no more prime swarms than natural swarming and has the advantage of no after swarms, and I think will prove satisfactory to any one who does the work thoroughly. M. A. GILL, Longmont, Colo., in Rocky Mountain Bee Journal.

SHOOK SWARMS.

When I had several out-apiaries to care for, and swarming became somewhat of a problem, I found it expedient to force the swarms by shaking the bees out into an empty hive on the old stand, with only starters in the frames, at a time when the honey-flow was good, and, after the queen had commenced laying, follow the swarm with the partly filled sections.

Swarms treated in this manner can be trusted, for a time, at least, and it is the only reliable method I have ever found that would keep the swarming impulse under control, and also give satisfactory results in surplus.

At the close of the season, if I do not wish for the increase, I unite the swarms thus divided, which I leave near together for that very purpose, by placing one hive over or upon the other, reserving the youngest or most desirable queen.

I use a deep frame which has a cross-bar in the middle, and this gives two places from which to build comb, instead of one, which is a decided advantage in starting.

I have used wired frames for this purpose, with good results, the wires running perpendicular. The comb will be built upon the wires in this

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