

QUERIES AND REPLIES.

UNDER THIS HEAD will appear Questions which have been asked, and replied to, by prominent and practical bee-keepers—also by the Editor. Only questions of importance should be asked in this Department, and such questions are requested from everyone. As these questions have to be put into type, sent out for answers, and the replies all awaited for, it will take some time in each case to have the answers appear.

QUERY No. 232.—Will you kindly tell me the length of time 10 lbs of honey will last a colony of bees in different seasons—give also the average.

G. A. DEADMAN, BRUSSELS, ONT.—Don't know.

H. D. CUTTING, CLINTON, MICH.—Until it is consumed.

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.—Perhaps an average of two months, but it varies very much and its hard to tell anything about it.

A. B. MASON, AUBURNDALE, ILL.—I have had good fair colonies consume less than four pounds of stores in six months, and I have had smaller colonies consume three times as much in the same time.

EUGENE SECOR, FOREST CITY, IOWA.—I never have made any experiments in this direction till the past winter. My bees consumed in the cellar last winter from 3 to 20 pounds each colony. Average loss 10 lbs. Average time in cellar 157 days.

J. K. DARLING, ALMONTE, ONT.—Have not tried at different seasons but from five to eight pounds will feed an average colony with me from the middle of November to the middle of April; but after that the honey disappears quite rapidly.

J. E. POND, NORTH ATTLEBORO, VT.—I have never tested the matter, and I don't just see how a test can be made that amounts to anything, as changes so constantly occur in conditions, that the test of any season or part of a season would be no criterion for any other.

G. W. DEMAREE, CHRISTIANSBURG, KY.—It depends on the time of year and the condition of the colony. Ten pounds of honey will winter an average colony from the middle of November to the middle of February, or first of March while in the month of May when breeding is going rapidly on, ten pounds of honey may be consumed in ten days or even less time.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BORODINO, N. Y.—A colony of bees will consume about 60 lbs of honey in one year. 12 being the average amount used from October 1st to May 1st in this locality. During May and September about 6 lbs each month and 12 pounds per month during the months of June, July and August.

WM. McEVoy, WOODBURN, ONT.—In the fall 10 lbs will last an average colony about two

months. In winter two months more or less according to how they winter and the size of colony. In spring six weeks more or less, according to the kind of spring, size of colony, and the quantity of brood that they would have to feed.

MARTIN ENIGH, HOLBROOK, ONT.—Ten lbs will usually last a colony from first of November until first of April if wintered in a good cellar or bee house, 5 months. Ten pounds will usually be all consumed between 20th of May and 1st of June, 10 days. Young bees just hatching use up honey very fast.

S. CORNEIL, LINDSAY, ONT.—The late Moses Quimby said he wanted his colonies to have about 10 lbs of honey in their hives on the 1st of May. This quantity he considered sufficient to keep up brood rearing till the honey harvest commenced. The demands for food at different seasons are so variable it is quite impossible to say.

JAS. HEDDON, DOWAGIAC, MICH.—Sometimes 10 lbs will last a large colony 6 months, and when they use less than half that during five months of winter confinement, they come out in splendid condition. Some times they use double that and then starve when breeding lively in summer. A large colony might consume 10 lbs in a week or two.

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—If the colony is under right conditions for wintering 10 lbs of honey will last an average colony of bees from the middle of November till the middle of March. The same colony in June ring during brooding will consume the 10 lbs in two weeks.

PROF. A. J. COOK, LANSING, MICH.—This can not be done. So much depends on season, strength of colony, quality of queen, etc., etc. I think 30 pounds of honey will last any colony in Michigan from September 20th to June 1st, the following year. I have never known a colony to require more than this amount.

R. MCKNIGHT, OWEN SOUND, ONT.—If ten pounds of honey feed a colony of bees from November 1st to May 1st, how much will feed them one year. According to the rules of proportion 20 lbs will do it; but this is one of the instances where figures do not state facts. Ten lbs of honey will support a colony for me from November till May but for the life of me I cannot tell how long it will serve them when on the wing and during the breeding season. The time of its consumption will depend largely on the number of youngsters in the family.

Depends on size of colony. Some would consume it in 5 days, others in 20. Also depends on brooding. In winter quarters it would last an average colony three months. In spring or fall ten days.

W. COUSE.—My bees have wintered fairly well. A few colonies are short of stores. Streetsville, April 27th, 1889.