

Labor in production of Comb vs Extracted Honey.

QUERY No. 266.—Suppose 50 colonies are worked for comb honey, and 50 for extracted, the honey to be extracted during the honey flow, which will require the greatest amount of work *during said honey flow*?—A. McG.

J. K. DARLING, ALMONTE, ONT.—Extracted.

EUGENE SECOR, FOREST CITY, IOWA.—Extracting.

WM. McEVOY, WOODBURN, ONT.—The 50 worked for extracted.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, BORODINO, N. Y.—Those worked for extracted honey.

J. ALPAUGH, ST. THOMAS, ONT.—There is but little difference, in my way of working.

PROF. A. J. COOK, LANSING, MICH.—I do not think it would be very different under the best management.

DR. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.—I suspect the man who has always run for comb may find comb making least work, and *vice versa*.

A. B. MASON, AUBURNDALE, O.—I believe extracting, but I don't like that way of extracting. Prefer to wait till the flow is over.

G. A. DEADMAN, BRUSSELS, ONT.—The 50 for extracted, at least more skilled labor, and your bees would be in a worse condition when you are through.

M. EMIGH, HOLBROOK, ONT.—I don't think there would be much difference, if you had to prepare your comb honey supers during the honey flow.

H. D. CUTTING, CLINTON, MICH.—It is more work to produce comb honey than extracted. But as you ask the question. It will take more work at *that time* to produce extracted than comb.

R. MCKNIGHT, OWEN SOUND, ONT.—If the comb honey be taken off as completed—and this is what ought to be done—comb honey entails most labor. If left on till the flow be over, and taken off by the crate, then extracted will require the greater amount of work.

S. CORNEIL, LINDSAY.—Very much depends upon how much beauty you desire your comb honey to have. In producing the finest comb honey there is more labor required than there is in producing extracted honey.

J. E. POND, NORTH ATTLEBORO, MASS.—It will depend largely upon the season, as a rule, however, the work will be less with the extracted, that is in my own locality. In some localities where honey is secreted freely, and the bees are easily induced to go into sections the comb honey could be gathered with the least work. I do not include grading in the above answer.

JAMES HEDDON, DOWAGIAC, MICH.—That depends upon the kind of hive you would use, and at what time of the year you put your sections together and put in the foundation. With the Langstroth, suspended frame system, the greatest amount and most disagreeable work is connected with the production of extracted honey, but with my new hive it is not so, because no frames are pulled out, or bees brushed or shaken off out doors.

G. W. DEMAREE, CHRISTIANBURG, KY.—If all the preparations are made in the winter and spring months, and you commence to compute the labor from and after the beginning of the honey flow the 50 colonies put to comb honey will require much less labor than the 50 put to extracted honey. But if you commence to count when the preparations begin the reverse will be the case. There is a matter to be taken into account here that cannot be measured before hand, and that is, some years 50 colonies at work at comb honey would require all the time of one good hand to keep the whole lot from disbanding under the swarm craze.

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—That depends on where you start with the work, on your method of taking the comb honey, and on what you mean by "honey flow"—whether the honey season through or simply one flow, as from clover or basswood or buckwheat. If you start with the empty section for the comb honey and with the empty extracting frame for the extracted honey, using foundation in each, and take both in the best style of the art, and follow it up right through a good honey season, there will be but little difference in the amount of work. Should you take the comb honey in "cups" or "boxes" instead of sections, and the honey season is only a middling one, there will be much less work with the comb honey. If you mean to confine the test to a single honey flow there would be more work on the extracted in both cases.

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