

Introducing Queen Bees

Mr. Jno. Fister, farm foreman, Central Experimental Farm, gives the following method of introducing queen bees: Select a strong colony, remove the wooden cover, and place a fine wire netting over the tops of the brood frames to prevent passage from one hive to the other; place on top of this wire cloth a brood chamber with four frames of well sealed brood, selected from different hives, with young bees just hatching out, but with no unsealed brood. Put the queen in this hive close the hive tight, and keep it over the strong colony four or five days. By that time a respectable force of young workers will be present, and the hive may be placed on the stand where it is to remain and the entrance to be made large enough for only one bee to pass at a time. As a matter of precaution against robbing, the entrance may be opened as the colony gets stronger. This latter plan has never failed with me.

I would advise all to have extra cages for introducing, so that no disease may be brought in with the queen. See that the cage you introduce with is thoroughly cleaned, and have fresh food made from your own honey placed in the cage in readiness. Then remove the queen and bees from the cage they were received in to the one prepared for them and follow directions above.

Farmer's Institute Report

The report of the Farmers' Institute for Ontario has been issued. It contains much information regarding the work of this important organization. The Institute having the largest membership on June 30th, 1904, was South Waterloo with 720.

The total number of Institute members in the province at the end of last June, was 21,537, or 2,542 less than on December 31st, 1903, when the membership totalled 23,799. The decrease is accounted for by the authorities as being due to the fact that the weather during the Institute campaign of 1903-04 was unprecedentedly severe. Many meetings had to be cancelled entirely, while the attendance at others was seriously interfered with. As the majority of the members join the Institute at the time of the winter meetings, a poor attendance is naturally followed by a decrease in membership.

Seed Corn

The ground seldom warms early, thoroughly and sufficient to sprout and grow corn; if the ground be damp, or rainy weather, the corn often rots, necessitating one or more re-seedings, and often the best of seed is slow, also some seasons. So I find by sprouting the corn in warm water till the sprouts are $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ in long I can sow or plant the corn and get a better, surer, more even and earlier matured crop. The sprouts may be mostly broken off by drill or planter, but the corn will still grow and be one month ahead of unsoaked. I have practised this several years and on different kinds of soil and different seasons and different varieties of corn, and know it's O.K. on any scale.—A. E. L., Ontario.

Guernsey Cattle Club

The annual meeting of the American Guernsey Cattle Club will be held in New York City on May 10th. The club has had a most successful year and the number of entries and transfers exceed that of any previous year.

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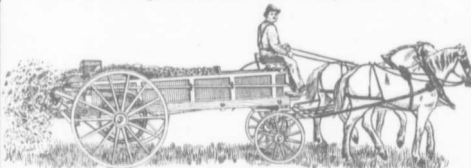
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