

kept away from the contagion had no trouble from foul brood.

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### Latest Swarms, Queenless Colonies, Fertile Workers.

**Q** SUPPOSE a swarm issues in September, should the bees be placed in an empty hive, or the queen cells removed from the parent stock and the bees returned?

2. Is not late swarming induced by the bees superseding an old queen?
3. If this is the case should not a young queen be introduced?
4. How long may a colony remain queenless after September 1st, without apparent damage to the stock?
5. Suppose a colony remain queenless two months from September 1st, will fertile workers develop?

C. P. W.

ANSWERS BY J. E. POND.

1. I should re-hive it in the colony it issued from, for the reason, that even if I had filled frames of comb sufficient for winter stores, I should fear that there would not be brood enough reared after September 1st to make a good colony.
2. Sometimes it is, and probably such is the usual cause. It may, however, arise from other causes.
3. Yes; still it might not relieve the trouble.
4. It would depend upon the amount of brood. If the frames were full of brood, it would go through the winter probably, but there are so many matters to be taken into consideration that it is impossible to lay down a rule. Every colony must be judged by itself, and from its own circumstance and condition.
5. They may and they may not. Fertile workers have never troubled myself, but I judge from information and reading, that they are not so apt to turn up in the fall as in the spring. I should hardly expect to see them in the fall after September 1st, and should only expect to find them the following spring.

ANSWERS BY HILAS D. DAVIS.

1. Return to parent stock. I believe in strong colonies to put into winter quarters.
2. Sometimes by superseding an old queen and sometimes by the stimulus of the fall honey flow.
3. Yes.
4. I have never had occasion to experiment in that direction as I always keep my stocks well queened.
5. I do not know, as I never had a fertile worker in any of my apiaries.

ANSWERS BY G. W. DEMAREE.

1. If there were drones on hand, I would kill the queen and return the swarm. If I had no drones, I would kill the queen and introduce another if I had to buy one.
2. Yes, no other cause under the sun, and that is the reason I would despatch the queen.
3. Yes.
4. I could keep the colony till March without apparent injury, if I was bound to do it.
5. They may and they may not. Generally, they will not at that season of the year.

ANSWERS BY C. C. MILLER.

1. That depends; as a general rule it might be best to return, but in a locality with a heavy and long-continued flow of fall honey, the swarm might be hived.
2. I think hardly, but I don't know much about it.
3. I think not. When they commence the superseding business, they'll get through with it about as well to be let alone.
4. If little or no honey is yielding, the damage might not be apparent without examination till the next spring.
5. Generally not, but season may have something to do with it.

ANSWERS BY JAMES HEDDON.

1. Whether you accept or return the swarms depends upon circumstances, and the latitude in which you live. Here, we should return the swarm, but not until after the bees had destroyed the cells themselves. We cannot afford to spend so much time and to handle our colonies over so much as to go into the cell-clipping business. There is a much surer and less laborious way which I have described in former articles.
2. Quite apt to be so induced.
3. It would be well for the colony to replace the old queen with a young one.
4. Until April 1 of the next year.
5. I think I have had fertile workers develop after Sept. 1. That is the time bees cease breeding, here.

ANSWERS BY R. L. TAYLOR.

1. That depends; if you want increase and the swarm is strong, hive it on foundation. If the old queen is not valuable kill her and put the swarm back.
2. Sometimes, I think, but not as a rule.
3. No, if that is the case let them rear a young one from one of the cells.
4. A colony, having plenty of brood on September 1, would not be greatly damaged if deprived of a queen for three or four weeks; but if the colony have little or no brood, the