

PROF. COOK, Lansing, Mich.—My extracted honey room is painted a dark color, is on the south west corner of the house, and has only the siding for a wall. Honey in this extracted in June and July becomes very thick and fine before September. I have never tested the degree of heat, but when the room is kept shut close it becomes very warm. A grand place for either extracted or comb honey. By opening the windows it is cool and pleasant.

G. W. DEMAREE, Christiansburg, Ky.—I would advise leaving the honey on the hives till it was of standard thickness. Honey when taken with the extractor should weigh not less than 11½ pounds to the measured gallon. My white clover honey usually weighs 12 pounds to the gallon. Such honey is of the best quality, and needs no tinkering with. Any room that has a south window through which the sun's rays may freely pass is a good place to keep honey (in or out of the comb). But the room should have a window on the opposite side covered with wire cloth so that the room can be properly ventilated. A dry cool atmosphere is better for honey than a highly heated damp atmosphere.

Young Queens Lost in Mating.

QUERY No. 212.—Can any one tell me the cause of so many of my queens being lost in mating? Sometimes I lose four out of five. I am only queen-rearing in a small way, having thirty-seven nuclei, yet we find much difficulty in filling our orders this season. There must be something catching them, as they never return to the hive after leaving.

DR. MILLER, Marengo, Ill.—D. A. Jones is the man to answer.

G. M. DOOLITTLE, Boredino, N. Y.—Queens are sometimes caught by birds, but not often in this locality.

MARTIN EMIGH, Holbrook, Ont.—The question is too hard for me. I have had the same trouble only not so bad.

ALLEN PRINGLE, Selby, Ont.—You are probably right in surmising that "there must be something catching them."

A. B. MASON.—I can't tell you the cause of the loss of queens. I have been troubled in the same way but not to the same extent.

JAS. HEDDON, Dowagiac, Mich.—No one can judge of the cause in an unknown locality. Have your nuclei unlike and not set along in a row like piano keys.

H. D. CUTTING, Clinton, Mich.—You are in a position to tell better than anyone at a distance. It is a case of cause and effect. You have the effect, set your wits at work to ascertain the cause.

EUGENE SECOR, Forest City, Iowa.—As the querist does not give his locality it would be only guesswork to attempt an answer. Even if I knew where he lived I could hardly divine the cause without knowing something of his environments.

PROF. COOK, Lansing, Mich.—We have had a similar experience this season, but never before. I have thought it might be owing to all the hives being white, arranged in perfect regularity on a smooth lawn, with no tree or bush to vary the bee yard. In our old evergreen bee yard we never had such a result.

J. E. POND, North Attleboro'.—There are many causes. If you would give a full description of your apiary and its surroundings an intelligent answer might be given; as it is you probably give the cause yourself and I should hunt carefully after the "something catching them."

G. W. DEMAREE, Christiansburg, Ky.—I believe I can. My views on this subject are embraced in an article from my pen, published in the C. B. J., page 469, vol. 4. Keep your nuclei as free as possible from the influences of laying workers. All pretenders in this line do not lay eggs, but their evil influence is all the same as if they did. When the nuclei are first made up and queen cells given to them keep a close watch over them and if any of the cells fail to hatch it is best to give such nuclei some more hatching brood and move the hive to a new location in the apiary. This will draw off the old bees and place the nucleus in condition to receive either queen cell or young queen. If a young queen is lost at mating time the nucleus should be supplied with some hatching brood and its location should be changed before it is entrusted with the care of a virgin queen.

Some lose their way, attempt to enter the wrong hive and are killed, birds prey on them. Many, we believe, attribute the loss of their virgin queens to some accident at mating, but our opinion is that many are stung by the bees just after mating in consequence of too frequent disturbance of the nuclei.

Space Below and at Side of Section Fdn.

QUERY No. 213.—How much space should be left at side and bottom of section foundation when stuck in the sections?

ALLEN PRINGLE, Selby, Ont.—One-eighth of an inch.

A. J. COOK, Lansing, Mich.—Just enough so that it will not touch the sections.

A. B. MASON.—I would leave no space at the sides, and one-quarter inch at the bottom.