

Questions and Answers

BY THE EDITOR

1. I have lately been using some Hoffman frames. I find they have some good qualities and many unsatisfactory ones. Could you tell me of a good frame; something of the same size as the Hoffman; a good, strong top-bar and a staple spacing, as I cannot uphold the self-spacing. I want to get a good, strong staple-spaced frame.

2. When is the best time to make nuclei for increase and dispense with swarming?

3. What is your opinion as regards buckwheat honey for wintering Lees.

4. What size of a hive do you advocate for best wintering.

E. T.

1. Dealers in Bee-Keepers supplies will furnish you with a stapled frame as good and as strong as that of the Hoffman, possessing all of its good points and eliminating its weak ones.

2. Make nuclei just after the honey flow has opened up well.

3. Buckwheat honey is good for winter food.

4. This is a very much disputed question. We would say, however, that you will be safe with the eight, nine or ten frame. Some few favor a twelve frame hive. They may be right, but with our present light upon the subject we could not conscientiously recommend it.—Ed.

* * *

Foul Brood.

William McEvoy:

Sir,—As your name appears in the Canadian Bee Journal as an authority on American Foul Brood, and as I have it in my apiary, I would like to ask a few questions.

1. Will dry extracted combs that have been on foul brood colonies, and which have been exposed to the severity of the

weather in an out shed all winter be safe to use again in the brood chamber?

2. Will queens from foul brood colonies be safe to transfer to healthy colonies.

3. Will wax made from foul brood combs be safe to use as foundation in brood chambers?

4. Will wax made from burr combs and cappings from honey supers on foul brood colonies be safe to use as foundation in brood chambers.

K. O.

Answers.

1. If your extracting combs never had any foul brood cells in them they will be perfectly safe to use in any brood chamber after the bees in foul brood colonies have cleaned the honey out of these. When foul brood matter is drying down it glues itself fast to the bottom and lower side wall of the cells, and there it will remain as long as the comb lasts, and no exposure to cold will ever make combs with such cells fit to use again, because as soon as the bees store honey in cells that contain the crust of foul brood the honey in such cells becomes diseased and as soon as the honey is taken out of these corrupt cells and fed to the brood it will give it the disease and this is how foul brood is spread.

I have always saved all the combs in every diseased apiary except the combs that contained foul brood cells. By turning my back to the sun and holding the comb on a slant so that the sun could shine right down into the cells I could at a glance tell the crust left from foul brood if there was any there and if none was seen all such combs were saved.

2. Yes; queens themselves from foul brood colonies are perfectly safe to transfer to any healthy colony, but you must introduce her all alone in a cage by herself. I have taken very many queen out of foul brood colonies all over the province and brought them home and introduced them into my own colonies. These

were fine colonies to others.

3. Yes; such comb

4. Yes; material in every purp

Woodbu

[Mr. M above for the name pondence the question that we a readers.—I

THIS

I put 1 all wintere and have my trouble bees. Had since. I r up in supe wet night every 7 or syrup all more. See ago. I had nest and killing the thirty year such an ex weather is Let me kn with yours

Jordan, J

[Your e many other part of the fine. Brod heavily, ar hausted al during fruit able to do