

the higher and lower forms of life are benefitted by crossing, why not the intermediate?

It may be that this matter has been proved, substantiating the theory expressed; if it has, I have never heard of it. I can conceive how difficult it would be to fully and satisfactorily verify either theory in the present state of the art. If fertilization in confinement ever comes to be an established fact, we could proceed upon an intelligent basis to demonstrate the facts. Or, if we could take a single colony and isolate it 15 or 20 miles from all other bees, and limit their increase to 2 or 3 colonies, so that near relatives would be compelled to mate, a few years might throw light on the subject. But, few such places exist, and if they did, bees multiply with such rapidity that only a short time would elapse before the relation would be so distant that the probable harm would be reduced to a minimum. Perhaps that is what was meant by the answer given to the question. If so, our notions may not be so antagonistic as I at first thought.

But I believe in new blood. It seems to me that the history of modern bee-culture proves the desirability of infusing vigor into the apiary, by the introduction of distant and unrelated queens. I would not trust altogether to nature's methods, and compel the queen to fly to a neighboring apiary.

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QUERIES AND REPLEIS.

UNDER THIS HEAD will appear Questions which have been asked, and replied to, by prominent and practical bee-keepers—also by the Editor. Only questions of importance should be asked in this Department, and such questions are requested from everyone. As these questions have to be put into type, sent out for answers, and the replies all awaited for, it will take some time in each case to have the answers appear.

Queen-excluding Honey-Boards.

QUERY 222.—Which is the best, a queen-excluding honey-board perforated with holes, or one with slots? 1—Do bees store honey as fast and as readily with such board as without. 3—Do they exclude the queen and pollen effectually? 4—What per cent. of your hives do you use such boards on?

G.M. DOOLITTLE, BORODINO, N.Y.—1—Use perforated zinc. 2—Yes. 3—Queen, yes; have little or no effect on the pollen.

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL. 1—Probably slots. 2—I think it might hinder a little. 3—I

think they do the queen; I don't know about pollen. 4—Two.

J. F. DUNN, RIDGEWAY.—1—With slots. 2—Just as fast and as readily according to my experience. 3—They exclude the queen and to a certain extent the pollen. 4—Seventy-five per cent.

R. McKNIGHT, OWEN SOUND.—I don't use excluders. Have had little trouble with brood in the upper stories, and never had a comb or section spoiled by pollen being stored in them.

WM. McEVOR, WOODBURN.—1—I don't know. 2—I don't know I never used any. 3—I should think they would. 4—None, but I will try some in the honey season.

EUGENE SECOR, FOREST CITY, IOWA.—1—I have never used any except with elongated holes. 2—Hardly, I think. 3—They exclude the queen quite generally, but not necessarily the pollen. 4—On all prime swarms.

A. B. MASON, AUBURNDALE.—1—I prefer Dr. Tinker's wood zinc honey board with two rows of slotted perforations, to any I have seen. 2—I can discover no difference. 3—The queen is excluded, and if there is a double bee space there will be but little pollen put in sections. 4—Just a few in experimenting.

H. D. CUTTING, CLINTON, MICH.—1—I prefer slots to holes. 2—I can see no difference with or without a honey board. 3—If made right they will exclude the queen and will scrape off some pollen. 4—About fifty per cent., but we are now making enough to go on nearly all.

PROF. A. J. COOK, LANSING, MICH.—1—One with holes. 2—Yes. 3—Yes. 4—All of them that are used for comb honey. I shall try them hereafter for extracted as well, though I have not needed the excluding fixture much for extracted honey.

J. E. POND, NORTH ATTLEBORO, MASS.—1—I don't see that it would make any difference; I use the cheaper one. 2—They do with myself. 3—Queen excluding honey boards exclude the queen but not always the pollen, although I think less pollen is stored above when they are used.

ALLEN PRINGLE, SELBY, ONT.—1—I presume you mean which are the round holes or the oblong the better. I prefer the latter. 2—Perhaps not quite so readily, that is, in starting, but just as fast after once started. Yes, for all