

Apiarists in other districts should report all cases of suspected foul brood either direct to the inspector for their district or to the Department of Agriculture, Parliament Buildings, Toronto.

Reports were received from every county in the Province, but those counties where bee-keepers' associations have been organized sent in by far the largest number of answers. Evidently these associations have proved of much assistance and encouragement to those engaged in the industry, this being shown in the greater number of reports received and the care taken in answering the questions submitted.

The following data have been taken from the information received:

	—Colonies—			
	100 to 400	50 to 100	25 to 50	Under 25
	%	%	%	%
Av. loss in winter..	17	19	16	24
Wintered in cellar..	67	53	46	44
Wintered outdoors, protected	33	44	46	50
Wintered outdoors, unprotected	...	3	8	6
Diseases reported—				
Foul brood	5	7	7	1
Dysentery	45	33	32	17

The reports as a whole indicate that the bees wintered well, but suffered later in many localities from the cold spring. The terrible losses of the previous winter are again emphasized, and it will take years to build up to the number of colonies then scattered over the country. While among the larger bee-keepers the losses were bad enough, the smaller apiaries will feel the loss most, as in the majority of cases almost every colony was wiped out. A great deal has been heard of the disastrous effects of foul brood and of the ravages attending this disease, but these have been trifling compared with the total losses of the past few seasons from other causes.

Much of the loss has been due to neglect and carelessness. The larger bee-keepers have specialized in this industry, and, being dependent upon it alone for their livelihood, have studied the requirements of their stock and have given their colonies the best attention. Many others have engaged in bee-keeping as a side line, and left the bees largely to themselves, except perhaps at the time of honey-flow, when they have taken off whatever surplus was available. Others, again, have kept from one to five colonies to produce enough honey for home use only, and these also have suffered for lack of proper attention, as their owners are generally too busy at the proper season with other farm labor to bother with them.

Yet, to the farmer who will make a business of keeping and looking after from ten to twenty-five or fifty colonies, a splendid profit may be made on the necessary investment. Like every other business, care and knowledge is required, and most of the latter can be gained only by experience. Small beginnings should be made and the natural increase under favorable conditions will soon give the number of colonies required. It must be understood that the profits are as great as from any other part of the farm, provided the same care is exercised in looking after the bees as is usually given to other stock or to the orchard. In addition to the crop of honey harvested, the bees are valuable adjuncts to the proper fertilization of blossoms in the orchard and in the alsike clover fields. They take nothing from the soil or other parts of the farm, yet give handsome returns to their keep.

In many parts of the Province are districts now unoccupied by bee-keepers where larger apiaries could be kept with profit. Alsike, white clover, buckwheat, basswood and other honey-producing crops are grown more or less everywhere, while in certain sections these occur

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Honey-produ winter well, an The cool, wet s weather, have k and all prospec of clover bloon for spring grain the wet land, wheat, ensuring honey later in tl outlook is very I of all kinds of l by care and a through the past

Owing to the 1907, the total cr even if every c good average of wheat. This sho rapidly-increasing will undoubtedly prices to about the past season. to the better grad are now being in ties, and can be l a very low price. less bee-keepers l by disease and the ity of the poorer decrease. This sh quality on the m consumption. Ver being practised, a Inland Revenue have served to cal

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Brant—General weaker in brood a