

DESTROYING EGGS.

READER.—How can I remove the eggs of the queen or larvæ from a comb, or can they in any way be killed or disposed of so they will not hatch?

Sel the comb outside the hive overnight during cool weather. All will be chilled and dead in morning. Or a more rapid way would be to immerse the comb in cold water for an hour and sling out in extractor. Return comb to hive.

BROOD-REARING IN SECTIONS.

If sections having eggs or larvæ are placed in surplus cases and the eggs allowed to hatch will the bees store pollen in such sections? Or will allowing one laying of eggs to be hatched in sections improve the sections for sale?

Yes they are liable to store pollen around the brood to feed whilst raising the larvæ, and some may remain in the cells after the brood emerges. It also darkens the combs and larval cocoons make them tough and undesirable for table use. Such combs should be sold; if at all, as 3rd or 4th quality, and the purchaser should be told that brood had been hatched therein.

W. P. TAYLOR.—I went very cautiously to work with the queen excluding honey-boards, in trying how they could be used on the old Langstroth hives, doubting whether the three openings of about 12½ inches were sufficient to allow the bees to pass to the upper frames for extracting, and I had come to the conclusion that they were sufficient. Last season from some (to me) unexplained cause, in several hives the bees went up, but I had great difficulty in getting them down again at the end of the season and I had decided to give them easier access to the upper frames for another season by some such thing as the honey-boards you have latterly given with the new Heddon hives. But Heddon has said that he has found these three openings amply sufficient, and it would seem that with me they were so for the purpose of their passing up, but how is it that they would not return? Have you more than one size of perforated metal? and are the strips used in the honey-boards, cut from the ordinary sheets? or are they more specially for the purpose?

Fitzroy Harbor.

We have never found any difficulty in the bees returning to the lower story. If drones get above they, of course cannot get down, but they should not get up, unless they alight on the upper story during manipulation. With the queen-excluding honey-board as we now make them, we believe they are acknowledged by all who use them to be a great

advantage. We think something unobserved must have been the difficulty. We have known scattering bees to remain in second story, become chilled and fall on honey-board but cannot account for the trouble you mention without further particulars. We use only one kind of metal.

MRS. JAMES HAMILTON.—I bought two colonies of Italian bees from you last spring in May. One swarmed in June, the other in July. After the swarms came off I put supers on the old hives. The first filled one super. I also took out a frame of sealed honey from the back of the brood-chamber. The other partly filled a super. The two young swarms did well; within a month from when they swarmed they had the brood-chamber full of stores and brood. They made no surplus. Later on in the season one of the old colonies and one of the young ones swarmed, but as I was not expecting them to go off I lost them. This left the three colonies short of winter stores, and one of the three had a drone-laying queen and became weak. One had great numbers of bees. The other young swarm was in good condition in the fall. I killed the drone-laying queen and united the two weakest colonies and fed them granulated sugar syrup. I packed them in chaff. Two colonies were dead; I think one died of dysentery; the others did not seem to get the honey, as there was plenty. The honey that was nearly all granulated. The one that is left looks well, and has some honey yet; they are bringing in pollen. I am discouraged at my success.

How shall I keep the extra frames through the summer?

Hang them up in a dry room two inches apart. If they were fumigated with sulphur they could be set in hives close together and kept until you want to use them.

What good is there in granulated honey?—is it good to feed the bees?

Where honey is granulated in the comb let the bees take it out. They will extract the moisture and drop the sugary particles on the bottom-board.

Granulated honey when liquified is as good food as any other. In all probability it did not granulate until after the bees died, then lack of warmth caused solidification.

My neighbors have black bees. Mine are beautiful Italians. How can I keep them from getting mixed? Some of those which died were nearly black.

Your queens are liable to mate with black drones, but by breeding from pure queens you will gradually weed out the black blood even from your neighbors' apiaries.

Ravenshoe, Ont., April 13.