

Every colony that is found to have its brood chamber crowded should be given an extra set of worker combs in a deep super, so that the queen may have sufficient empty combs in which to deposit her eggs.

PREVENTION OF SWARMING

In order to prevent swarming it is necessary to remove the causes as far as is possible. The essentials for swarm control are room, ventilation and shade given in time; also good young queens of a non-swarming strain.



Removing the Quilt.

NATURAL SWARMING

The beginner is recommended to increase by natural swarming until such time as he has had enough experience to enable him to increase by dividing the colony or practise what is known as artificial swarming. Allow but a limited number of swarms and let them be strong and early. Late swarms should be returned to the parent hive about twenty-four hours after hiving them.

If you desire to make sure of new swarms clip the queen's wings. This can be done, as shown opposite, by holding the queen with the first finger and thumb of the left hand. Another method is to clip the queen's wings on the comb without taking her in the fingers. When this is done it is well to have a small scissors having a bent point.

CLIPPING QUEEN'S WINGS

Do not allow bees to hang out in front of the hive, as it shows that they are uncomfortable in it, or do not have sufficient room. They should be given more air, shade, or room according to the circumstances.

SWARM CLUSTERS

When the swarm issues it generally settles on the limb of a bush or tree near the parent hive. If the limb of the tree is a small one and can be spared the swarm is readily hived by cutting off the branch and shaking the bees on the ground, or on a white sheet at the entrance of the new hive. The bees will then make their way into the new hive, thus giving us our new colony. In the new hive the frames may be supplied with full sheets of foundation or drawn out combs if available.

Swarming is a natural habit with the bees and therefore the prevention



Board Feeder.