

colony, but poor prospects of any fall flow, as the weather has been very warm and dry. Total, 62 pounds per colony, with 20 of increase for ending the season of 1896.

GEORGE E. JOHNSTON.

Bracebridge, P.O., Muskoka, Ont.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to your circular of August 8th:

- 1 Swarming in 1895 was not very good.
- 2 Bees wintering—Did not hear of any losses.
- 3 Built up in Spring not very good; weather very cold.
- 4 Clover flow fair to good; have seen better.
- 5 Basswood flow only middling.
- 6 Thistle flow, cannot say.
- 7 Buckwheat flow, extra good.
- 8 Swarming this year, extra good.

W A INGLIS.

Wakenham, Lanark Co, Ont, Aug 17, 1896.

Swarming last year was not very good. Bees wintered with me good; one swarm out of 87; lost some after setting out in Spring by not having time to attend to them, time of Spring work; but there was general complaint that they did not winter well with others, some lost all. My bees did not build up well in the Spring. Clover flow was good while it lasted, but was short on account of dry weather; and the clover was not plentiful on account of last year's drought. Bees did not do anything on basswood this year—very little in this neighborhood. Thistles not of much account, not grown much in this vicinity. Prospects for buckwheat are good; it is coming in by the hundred weight every day the last week. If it keeps on I expect between 3000 and 4000 pounds of golden rod and buckwheat honey mixed. Swarming this year was on average easy control in my yards. Honey flow stopped very sudden; some that have only a few swarms a few miles away, swarmed three or four times. I have 1400 pounds extracted, and about 300 pounds comb, 78 swarms, spring count. That is not good, it has been worse, and I have over bees that to the hive.

Yours respectfully,

JOHN L. GROSJEAN,

Bourg, Northumberland Co., Ont.,  
Aug 17th, 1896.

Not many swarms, excepting from old box hive.

Bees wintered well. I lost none.

Bees built up fast in early spring;

principally from dandelion, which is very plentiful here.

4. The clover flow has been fairly good all through the season.

5. Basswood bloomed very freely, but the bees did not appear to get much honey from it, this year.

6. Much honey has been collected from thistle bloom, and bees are still collecting some nectar from the second bloom.

7. Buckwheat is of very little importance here, as no great quantity is grown.

8. There has been considerably more swarming this year (1896) than last year (1895).

Last year (1895) the main crop of honey was obtained from the wild raspberry bloom, which was very abundant, and thistle which is also very abundant. Basswood bloom had been completely destroyed by the heavy spring frosts. This year (1896) there was very little raspberry bloom, and honey did not come in freely till later in the season than usual.

JOS. KINDER.

Rockingham, T'p Brudenell, Renfrew Co.,  
Ont., Aug. 17th, 1896.

Yours of the 8th to hand. You want me to give you an account of how my bees done last year. I consider swarming was very good for 1895, considering the kind of season, for the early frosts killed all the clover and after that the drought was something terrible around here; it is a wonder that our bees existed at all, however, the colony I got from you which arrived here sometime in June, threw out two swarms in July. The bees which remained in the old hive done no more good after the second swarm came off; they lost their queen somehow, and as I was seldom at home they got leave to remain in that way until fall. I put them in with the second swarm, but in doing so, I found the working bees had dwindled away to a mere handful, but any amount of drones. As the second swarm had not got their eight frames filled with comb I took out the empty ones and filled up the hive with the last comb out of the hive. I had taken the bees and packed them away in that way for the winter. The colony I lost, I blame myself for it, but the other colony came out all right. I merely saw that they had plenty of stores and packed them away along side the other out in the snow, so when I lost one that left me only one to start with. The spring of 1896 my bees were gathering pollen in April. They threw off the first swarm in the latter part of May, the second in ten days after and the third inside of thirty-six