

pecially large cell rounded and about the shape of the end of a person's little finger from the last joint.

The cells designed to contain the worker brood measure one-fifth of an inch across the mouth; drone cells are larger, having a diameter of a quarter-inch as well as greater depth.

To be successful in the keeping of bees it is necessary to follow the three rules of beekeeping, which are: Keep the colonies strong; keep the colonies



Smoke Blowers for Beekeepers.

strong; keep the colonies strong. It is only from populous colonies that we can expect to get an abundant honey harvest.

To have strong and prosperous colonies we must have the right kind of a queen, and therefore the beekeeper must know how to tell a good queen from a poor one.

### HOW TO TELL A GOOD QUEEN

A good queen will start laying in the middle of a comb and lay one egg in each cell in a circle, so that as the brood develops each comb will present an even appearance and be filled from top to bottom and right out to the ends with brood, not leaving a rim of honey just below the top bar.

The brood chamber should not be used for the storage of honey; we expect the brood combs to be filled with brood. We want a queen that will not lay in a drone comb early in the season, because too many of these lazy fellows eat up the profits. A good queen is known by the workers that hatch from her eggs. They should be industrious, gentle, and resistant to disease. The selection of breeders that are not inclined to swarm is wise. Some colonies swarm much less than others, and there is no doubt that the swarming instinct can be bred out to a certain extent by selecting queens from non-swarming colonies.

The queen herself should be apparently well developed, graceful and strong in her movements, not excitable nor easily frightened, but neither awkward nor sluggish.

A queen bee is at her best in her second year, and should not be allowed to retain her position after she shows signs of waning energy. A very old queen will have lost her power to lay worker eggs and will have become nothing but a drone-breeder. But the bees are seldom caught napping in this way. Long before this happens the bees will have commenced the hatching of a young queen.



Bee Gloves with fingers. Bee Mitts with fingers exposed.



Honey Knife.