

used, one being dipped in honey, one being left sound and whole, and the other punctured as before. The bees worked on the dipped and punctured fruit, but was not seen working on the whole sound fruit.

(c) Fruit exposed on shelves in a workshop adjoining the honey-house. This, like the preceding experiment consisted of dipped fruit, punctured fruit, and whole sound fruit. In this test the bees appeared to work as freely as in the super on the dipped and punctured fruit, and an occasional bee was noticed looking for an opening on the whole sound fruit but did not succeed in finding one.

Experiments with brood foundation of different sizes has also been continued, and one with full drawn combs.

(1) Full-drawn combs. (2) Full-sheets foundation. (3) Half-sheets. (4) Starters or about 1-inch strips. For this experiment four swarms were caught July 2, weighing  $5\frac{3}{4}$  pounds each. Each hive was weighed daily to ascertain the gain or loss, also notes were taken on how the bees built up the brood chamber. Results are very similar to 1901. Strips of foundation gave the largest return. In this instance the bees started to work, not in the frames, but in the sections in the super, which had full sheets of foundation, sooner than 1, 2, and 3. Queen-excluders were put on to prevent the queen going up into the supers. In the hives that had half-sheets, also full-sheets, the bees appeared to work about equal in the brood chamber and in the super. In the hive that had full drawn combs the queen began to lay at once, and build up the brood chamber first. The hives that had half-sheets, and also the hives that had starters in the brood chamber, were very unevenly built. The bees built worker combs

as far as the foundation, and below that they were built very unevenly, and in many instances they could not be lifted out without being broken, and some of these combs were more than half drone cells. They could not be used for extracting frames, as, not being wired, they were too weak to stand heavy swarms or shifting without breaking down.

From the results of these experiments, it is better in all cases to use full sheets of foundation, both in sections in the supers and in the frames of the brood chamber. I would advise when hiving a swarm as far as possible to use full-drawn comb and if only a limited supply of combs are on hand, use them with alternate sheets of foundation.

Mr. McEvoy: I think we have a gentleman here, Mr. Smart, who might endorse that; I think he is one of the most extensive strawberry growers in the Province; I think he has eleven acres. He is also a bee-keeper.

Mr. Smart: I might say we never had any trouble with the bees injuring our fruit only in the way that the gentleman speaks of—over-ripe fruit. I have noticed the bees on raspberries that have got over-ripe and fallen on the ground.

Mr. Fixter: There was a point I did not mention. They were noticed on the berries after the pickers had picked them, but they did not go near them on the bushes.

Mr. McEvoy: I can endorse every word. I have four acres of strawberries, and it is the juicy, over-ripe, skin broken-berries that they touch, and they are not fit and should never be put in the baskets.

Mr. Smart: I might say that two years ago this summer one of our neighbors who lives a short distance from us complained very much about our bees during the raspberry season,