

breeding of bees ceases, in general, about the middle of November, and is again resumed about the middle of January ensuing. It will therefore be observed that there is a recess of about *sixty* days only, during the year, when a good healthy colony has no brood. At this period of the year, when there is no brood, there are but few moth-worms; they are most numerous in warm weather. Very likely there would be as many moth-worms as soon as breeding ceases as at any period during the cessation of breeding. As soon as breeding ceases, therefore, would be the best time to fumigate the combs to insure the destruction of the most worms. In box-hives not supplied with moveable frames, to determine the exact time when there is no brood in the combs, it would be necessary to resort to guessing! I trust that my contemporary is an expert at guessing. To guess correctly is a very essential qualification to such bee-keepers as advocate the old-fashioned box-hive! After having ascertained, by guessing, when the colony has no brood, the bees may be driven out into another box or hive, and the combs thoroughly fumigated. It would be advisable to confine the bees, as they might, having no combs or stores, be tempted to abandon their temporary home. They should be allowed plenty of air. All the crevices about the hive from which the bees were driven should be closed with some suitable material, to confine the fumes of the sulphur as much as possible. Were I to resort to this means of destroying the moth-worm,—but I trust I shall never be obliged to,—I am not positive that I should be content with less than a half-day's fumigation! The moth-worm would never have any desire to get into my hives again! But to return to our subject. After the combs have been thoroughly fumigated, it would be advisable to invert the hive, and subject them for a few hours to the exposure of the air. By this means, a large percentage of the scent of the sulphur will be removed. I should judge that the scent of the sulphur would be quite annoying to the bees: that is, if they were returned immediately after the fumigation, and before the combs had been subject to any exposure to the air. I would here caution the bee-keeper not to use too much sulphur, inasmuch as it would quite likely to soil the combs; it would color them green.

It will be apparent that the foregoing directions are for fumigating combs in box-hives—hives not provided with frames. Box-hives are the kind that this correspondent, whose inquiry I am answering uses. It is, therefore, not so very strange that he should make the inquiry under consideration. On the other hand, had his bees been in properly made frame hives, and had he learned the fact that the progeny of the bee-moth is an extremely harmless enemy to good healthy colonies of bees, he would certainly

ly not have penned the inquiry which has claimed our attention.

It should be borne in mind by all bee-keepers that the proper time to destroy moth-worm is early in the spring. They should be destroyed as fast as they make their appearance. At the season of the year every good colony should have more or less brood, which would prevent fumigating the combs with sulphur. We should therefore, rely upon other means of destroying the worms. It will be obvious that, in case the worms are destroyed, there would be no stingers. The best way that I have found, is to examine my colonies (which, of course, are frame hives,) quite often in the spring, by taking out the frames of combs, and killing all the worms. When the contents of a hive can be taken out, and each comb can be thoroughly examined on both sides, it must be apparent that it is not difficult to find *every* worm in the hive and when found, to destroy them. A few worms killed early in spring, are equivalent to a large number later in the season. Moth-worms are often very useful, and quite as often very injurious. When properly attended to, a great many worms may be caught and killed, when not properly attended to, they furnish an excellent harbour for the moth-worm where they often go through the necessary transformations, and at last become millers. The moth worms generally find harboring place enough without providing them with any. It is quite often the case that too much dependence is placed on the moth decoys. The proper place to find the moth-worm is among the combs, and hence the combs should be examined often, and the worms killed before they are old enough to leave them to harbour in the moth decoy, comb being their only food, their ravages finished when they leave them. All things considered, the *best moth decoys are strong, healthy colonies of bees.*

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Middleport, Niagara Co., N. Y., 1862.

Veterinary Department.

(Conducted by A. Smith, V. S.)

Pleuro-Pneumonia.

This disease appears to be still prevailing to a considerable extent amongst the cattle in Massachusetts, and has given rise to some discussion as to its contagiousness or otherwise. The attention of the legislature having been called to the existence of the disease in certain districts, a commission has been appointed to inquire into its extent, and adopt measures to arrest its progress. A writer in the *Boston Cultivator* thus narrates the proceedings of the Commission:—

“Immediately upon their appointment