

June, 1912

BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

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HOPPER, Secy.
Galley Ave.

THE CAUSE OF BEES DYING IN THE SPRING

I have been watching bees and studying "beeology" for many years, and have harvested and sold close on to fifty tons of honey. But I feel that I am knocked out this spring with more defeat than I ever met before. The whole force except a few hives have dwindled 30 and 40 per cent. And out of 90 good heavy colonies 12 came out of the cellar dead, whilst nearly as many more have dwindled since that date, April 22nd.

There are more yet to die. I will ask this question, and stagger at answering it myself, according to the knowledge I have obtained by my experience. Question: What is the Cause of our Bees dying off in the Spring? My answer is this, we fail to supply our hives with young field workers after we get in our honey harvest. Last fall was very dry, and there was no fall flow, consequently there was no brood and no young bees, (I predicted what would happen this spring, and it has come to pass in our yard). I think it one of the greatest mistakes to let colonies go into winter quarters with merely the old stock of field workers, and no young bees. I shall be glad if others who have had experience in regard to fall feeding, will give their opinion in this matter.

A. R. McRAE.

Bear Brook, Ont.

Took bees out April 15th. Came out in fairly good condition. Lost a few, suffering from shortness of stores and spring dwindling. The prospects are very bright for the coming season for Perth County.

F. S.

Dublin, Ontario.

Bees wintered unusually well in root cellar as usual. One lost out of 49. Others good. Set out April 15th. Clover prospect good.

H. McC.

North Bruce, April 29th, 1912.

REPORTS INVITED

We are always glad to hear from our readers. Drop us a postal card giving us a concise account of your experiences.

BEE-KEEPERS, AWAKE!

BEES AND SUPPLIES FOR SALE

One of the Finest Outfits in Canada.

DO you realize that it is almost impossible to-day to buy a choice outfit of bees and supplies ready for business in Ontario. Do you realize, further, that you can pay a good price for this property and with proper care clear from 50 to 75 per cent. annually on your investment? This is your opportunity. Seize it now. Don't wait. Write to-day. Outfit consists of 200 colonies of bees, 240 extracting supers, 120 comb honey supers, 200 queen-excluders, 100 four-colony hive stands, 45 four-colony wintering cases, 2 choice honey houses in panels, 2 foundation mills, reversible extractor, wax press, capping melter, etc., etc. Good location; bees do not have to be moved. Wish to sell at once, giving possession August 1st. If not sold, might run on shares for term of years with reliable bee-keeper. Owing to health of my family, wish to return to California in fall. Address A. Laing, Lynn Valley, Ont.

BEWARE OF FOUL BROOD

Brief Instructions for Treatment.

In a honey flow, in the evening, remove the colony from its stand and set in its place a clean disinfected hive containing clean frames with foundation starters. If the weather is very warm, place an empty hive under the one containing the starters for a few days, to give a good clustering place for the swarm. Cover the entrance with queen-excluding metal. Now shake the bees from the combs of the old hive into the new; but if any fresh nectar flies out in shaking it will be necessary to brush the bees. Get these combs immediately under cover, and clean up very carefully any honey that may be around, so robbers from healthy colonies cannot carry home disease.

When the diseased colonies are weak in bees, two or three should be put together into one clean hive so as to get a good-sized colony. In doing this diseased colonies must be united with their next-door neighbor and not carried to another part of the apiary.

All combs from the supers as well as from the brood-chambers of the diseased colonies must be either burned or melted and boiled thoroughly before the wax is fit to use again. The honey that is removed is entirely unfit for bee feed and should be buried deep enough to be out of the reach of any bees.

For fuller particulars in reference to Foul Brood see Bulletin No. 197, issued by the Ontario Dept. of Agriculture, which will be sent you on application to the Director, Fruit Branch, Parliament Buildings, Toronto.

When writing to advertisers, please mention the Canadian Bee Journal.