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Vetches and Winter Rye as Fodder Crops. The size of each plot is to be one rod wide by two rods long. Material for numbers 3 and 4 will be sent by express, and that for the others by mail.

C. A. ZAVITZ.

O.A.C., Guelph, Ont., Aug. 12, 1908.

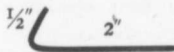
A BEGINNER MAKES INQUIRY

Having just made a start at bee-keeping, I wish to ask a few questions. I bought a colony of mixed bees, supposed to be Italian and Black. Some of them are all black and some have one and two yellow or golden bands around the body. Each band is about as wide as this heavy line: . Would you class them as the Black or Italian bee?

They were hived July 1. Seemed to be working all right till about 1st of August; then I counted as many as twenty young bees on the platform, some dead and others barely moving. This had gone on for a week. I then closed the entrance halfway, and I have not seen any more since.

About the same time I saw a long white worm on the platform, which looked to me to be a moth worm, and for a few days the bees were bringing out bits of thin white sheets (not wax cells), and I saw two dead bees on the platform tangled up with something like the web of a moth cage. Would you say there were wax moths in the hive?

I saw an account of the expense of bee escapes. I took a few strips $2\frac{1}{2}$ " wide, nailed them together the size of the box, then nailed two strips 1" square across the centre $\frac{3}{4}$ " apart. I then took two strips of tin and bent them thus:



putting the wide edge downward between the strips, so that the two edges of the tin were a trifle wider apart than the opening in a queen-excluder. I covered

the rest over with canvas cloth. I then lifted the top storey off, put on my bee escape, then replaced the top storey, and in the morning only one bee remained in the top storey. I then took box and all in the house; no trouble with bees at all—used no veil or smoker.

When I first got the colony it was covered with a cloth, and every time I would lift the cover I found a lot of very small ants on the cloth. I took it off and put on a piece of oilcloth, and have had no trouble with the pests since.

J. A. RUDOLPH.

Bornholm, Perth Co., Ont.

[It is our opinion that the queen of this hive is not a pure bred queen—hence the different colored bees. You can soon bring them to pure Italians by giving them a pure-bred Italian queen.

There is evidently some wax Moths in one or two of the frames. You should open the hive and examine the combs. If you see any of the moth web, tear it all out with the point of a nail, following the track of the web. The bees will build the cells up again.

Your bee escape was a very cheap and ingenious device. Most bee-keepers use the Porter Bee Escape. Many of us have not the time to make everything.

Heavy duck is the best we know of for cloth covers. The ants you speak of would have given you no trouble. They were evidently the small ants that one will see in abundance on the ground. They evidently crawled up the side of the hive and got under the cover. We would not recommend oil cloth as a cloth cover.

Be sure you examine your combs and have all moths removed before putting into winter quarters.—Ed.]

KEEP POSTED

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