

I have much pleasure in reporting a good honey season in this locality, perhaps not as good as '94, but much better than last year. I have three strains of bees, Black, Italian and Five Banded (which I understand are Cyprians. Am I right?). The Italians did the best work of all. The basswood yielded very little this season, but clover better than usual.

E. S. GOUDGE.

Halifax, N. S., Aug. 14, 1896.

1. How was swarming last year (1895)? Below average.
2. How did the bees winter in your vicinity? Very good.
3. How did the bees build up in spring? Good.
4. How has the clover flow been? Fair.
5. How has the basswood flow been? Full bloom.
6. How has the thistle flow been? Above average.

7. What are the prospects for buckwheat flow? Good.

8. How has swarming been this year? Above average.

P. S.—Aug. 16, buckwheat and weather has been fine up to date. Bloom about half through. Have obtained 30 pounds average per colony to date.

W. A. PEARSON.

Sacolle, Que.

1. How was swarming last year (1895)? Good.
2. How did the bees winter in your vicinity? Good.
3. How did bees build up in the Spring? Good.
4. How has the clover flow been? Good.
5. How has the basswood flow been? Good.
6. How has the thistle flow been? Good.
7. What are prospects for buckwheat flow? Good.
8. How has swarming been this year? Good.

Swarming good this year. One new swarm came off the 12th of June. She was one of your queens. No 1 ft has made for me 84 pounds of box honey in eight weeks' time, and also had her box full—full at the bottom—and at this writing she has 44 more sections on and they are very near full. One of the queens was a good one, the other was good for nothing last year. This is all I can think of interest.

Respectfully yours

L. ADAMS.

Casselmann, Russell Co., Ont.

In reply to your circular letter of 8th inst., I will answer your queries by number as they are put:

1 Our bees did not swarm much last year.

2 Bees wintered fairly.

3 Building up in Spring was very rapid.

4 There was no surplus from clover in this vicinity.

5 The flow from basswood heaviest I have ever known.

6 Nothing from thistle; farmers obstinately and persistently refuse to cultivate this plant, notwithstanding a knowledge of the fact that beekeepers are losers thereby.

7. I think the prospect for a good flow from buckwheat is favorable.

8 With regard to swarming, our bees increased from 45 to 95 colonies.

FRED HAMM.

Bath, Lennox Co., Ont.

In my own apiary I commenced the season of 1895 with 25 colonies of bees, a few of which were not strong; they were in the Jones hive. I got 35 pounds of honey per colony, Spring count, with increase of 5. After August 1st the weather set in very dry, bees could gather nothing; brood-rearing ceased, and very little honey in the brood chambers. I transferred them into Langstroth hives and fed them up for winter. I built a new cellar last summer 18x26 of stone, leaving four air chambers built of brick at the back of the wall on the floor, having the air coming in on the cellar floor. I placed the bees in the cellar on November 20. I placed them 16 inches from the cellar floor, with the back end of the hive raised three inches higher than the front. The thermometer registered 40° all winter, and the bees kept very quiet, never hearing any hum. Sometimes I thought they were all dead. I took them from the cellar April 11 and placed them on summer stands, and they took a cleaning flight. There was no spotting of hives, nor signs of dysentery. On the following day, being favorable, the bees were examined; found no brood, and a few of the queens just started to lay. The weather then being fine, they built up very quickly. The first week in May the bees were strong, and the weather being fine, I began to spread brood, and by June 1st the hives were full of bees. Supers were placed on to keep down swarming, and they came up, and by June 10th the clover began to give honey. We got 30 pounds extract honey per colony from clover, and there being no spring frosts, basswood gave a very good yield—32 pounds.