

weeks ago, the seed pods being nearly full size, the other is just coming into bloom; not more than half the buds being open. From appearances we should say it would be about one week before some of the buds would be in bloom. Could not you get some sprouts of these two varieties. Would also suggest that you gather some of the seed after they have become fully ripe, as we should like to try the experiment of growing some of them *from* the seed, if sprouts or young trees cannot be secured. It appears from present indications that a little careful selection of the earliest and latest blooming basswoods would give us at least one month's flow of basswood honey; perhaps more than that by selecting some of the varieties from Europe, especially the southern parts.

SUGAR SYRUP—HONEY FROM OLD COMBS AS FOOD.

R. McLEAN.—Would you kindly advise me best syrup to feed bees for winter use. I have quite a quantity of honey in combs two years old. By boiling it could I feed it for winter use? Please let me know through your journal. I have been keeping bees the last twelve years but got more useful information from your BEE JOURNAL than I did in all my life before.

Hopewell, Picton Co., Aug. 15th, 1885.

The best syrup for winter food is best granulated sugar. The honey from the comb might be boiled and fed; better mix a little best granulated sugar with it.

ABSCONDING SWARMS.

A. G. WATSON.—My bees have done very well this year so far. As I have another position I cannot attend to them as I could wish, but have got quite a lot of honey from six colonies. I only lost one colony last winter and the rest came out very strong. My best swarm flew away to the woods this year. I followed them as far as I could for the river. I put them in a hive all right and they stayed there about two hours and then flew. I do not know the cause as the hive appeared to be clean and the combs smelled sweet. I would like to know the cause of their

leaving.

Ayr, Aug. 4th, 1885.

There are various causes for bees leaving; sometimes they leave without any *apparent* cause; probably the hive was too warm. By keeping them well shaded and cool and giving them a comb with eggs, larvæ, brood, honey, etc., they may generally be kept alright.

BEE SPACES—EXTRACTING FROM BROOD CHAMBER

G. G. MCKENZIE.—Do you leave bee space between the frames and perforated zinc or honey board, or do you put it flat on top of frames? Do you divide the brood chamber by the use of metal division board to extract from behind it, or do you extract from all the frames? What is the best way to entice the bees in the sections or upper story.

North Nation Mills, Que.

Yes, to the first question and to the second, we never use any perforated metal division boards in the body of the hive for extracting purposes, unless it be to shut off drone comb from worker comb. The sections must be placed as near the board as possible; the brood chamber must be contracted, so that there is only room for brooding. Any means may be adopted to secure the two points above mentioned.

C. BOYD.—My report for season is as follows: Four colonies Spring count increased to nine. Have taken 1000 pounds extracted honey and 50 pounds comb honey. Honey is coming in rapidly at present from boneset and golden rod, the latter seems to be the first beginning to bloom here. We had a heavy frost on the night of the 1st, but it did not do much damage to the flowers. Am preparing for winter by giving my bees six combs in eight comb space, replacing other two combs with one inch boards, crowded up against side of hive.

Petrolea, Ont.

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