

SOME IDEAS FROM J. E. FARR.

Well, we have had the unexpected good flow from clover, especially in this vicinity. The buckwheat was very plentiful. However, the amount of buckwheat sown does not assure a good harvest of honey from that source. So often the early frost kills the lowland buckwheat and seems to stop the flow entirely, or, at least, nearly so. As the late E. W. Alexander stated in *Gleanings* some years ago, after his bees had had a good run from buckwheat: if the weather turned out cold for a few days they never made very much from that source that season, and I find it correct in my locality. Buckwheat began to yield about August 10th, but did not seem to be very good until the 18th, when all was out in its glory. The bees at my apiary just roared for about five days, then they let up and I guess if I am correct it intends to stay up, for on the 22nd we had light frost. On the 26th a heavier frost followed and this morning (September 6th) Mr. Michener stated there was heavy frost, so I am sorry indeed the honey flow from that source is done and the farmers have lost nearly all of the crop. I think, however, the bees have plenty of sealed combs for winter.

I have my bees located on a nice sand knoll about eight miles from home. It is located in the south edge of a heavy timbered bush, open only to the south. I think it is a splendid place for an apiary—a distance from a bee-keeper's home—only for one thing, and that is the swarming. I hived a few swarms, some very high. It seems bees do take limbs of trees to alight on where it is difficult to hive them, but for people who have bees near high trees, I will describe my way of getting the swarm: I had a tin-smith make me a box, 9 inches deep, 10 inches wide and 16 inches long, a good hive lid, also a handle on the side like a feed measure handle. Just attach a cord, climb the tree, take along a small

saw and saw the limb so that it will bend, come close enough to the limb of the tree to allow you to reach the cluster of bees and shake into the box, where you can keep them until a hive is prepared to receive them.

There has been a good deal written about the use of honey knives—hot, cold and thick. Some prefer a thin blade. My little experience shows me plainly that I can do as much work again with a thick Bingham honey knife kept scalding hot. I can uncup a perfectly capped Langstroth comb with two strokes on a side of perfect foundation combs. With a thin blade the cappings will fall on the uncapped surface of the comb and cause a loss of time just when moments are precious.

J. E. FARR.

Lowbanks, Ont.

[We are exceedingly glad to hear from you, Mr. Farr. Your location is an ideal one. The protection from the north ought to give you good wintering conditions. Let us hear from you again.—Ed.]

BLACK BROOD IN EASTERN ONTARIO.

(Mr. Byer, in *American Bee Journal*.)

I am sorry to say that the black brood outbreak in Eastern Ontario is spreading rapidly. A letter just received from Inspector Scott, informs me of this fact, and he is strongly of the opinion that it would pay the Government to step in and destroy outright all affected apiaries, and compensate the owners where good apiaries are so treated. It seems to be of a particularly virulent type, and while it yields to treatment temporarily, yet it is liable to break out again, when there has been no possible means of reinfection by robbing.

Mr. Scott says that in our present method we are simply "chasing" after it instead of "heading it off" and he says he sees no reason why, at its present rate of spreading, that it will not reach

the bee-keeper very few with the d two years i it will over ical measur at once. Fo in the past, pared with now seems York State, of money to if the work more quickly stamped out break first w

There is s spreading of can foul broo apiary in a f a bit of robb disease that is chiefly spre this we have l this point of disease's insid are almost en through an a first cells of d gle colony. has been ragin tario's best b they feel sore have never be tricts, making though it were ordinary.

I do not wis I unhesitatingl if the present checking, in a lot of sadder, in the province

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