

Journeyman Level Master Beekeeping Course

April 7, 2014

Class No. Five

Drawn Comb is a major asset. There is a product, (PDB) paradichlorobenzene, menthol crystals. This product is a possible carcinogen.

If you store them with a lot of light and ventilation, it will control the wax moth. Some people store them in a barn with ***light and ventilation***. Take out the frames and rack them rather than stack the honey super. This is a good idea.

Fire ants will eat the wax moths. Store them on pallets at 180 degrees, seven or eight frames high.

Another product that use to available Certan (microbial). Enough bee keepers did not use it so it was pulled from the market. It comes in a powder form and every frame has to be sprayed. 6:40 PM

SWARM PROVENTION & CONTROL

Until 1850's, beekeepers look at swarming to make increases. The Apis Mellifera will usually swarm once per year. Our two (2) swarm months are April and May. Any swarm taken in Jun or Jul, it will probably have to be fed. The beekeepers job is to prevent swarms to maximize honey accumulation. To prevent swarming, there must be several things to be done in advance.

SWARM PREVENTION METHODS

1. Young laying queen- Re-queen which provides sufficient pheromone.
2. Take frames of brood from a strong colony and move to weaker colony to reduce congestion in the brood chamber. You must do this early, in March. Make increases. Take a colony and split it.
3. Reverse brood chambers. Reverse again in a week or two. The queen has the tendency to lay up.
4. Damaree Swarm Prevention-Remove all the brood from the bottom and place it above another deep that has drawn foundation. You have to go in and cut out queen cells. Leave her on the bottom and put a queen excluder between the deeps.
5. Supering with honey supers

SWARM CONTROL METHODS

1. Cut queen cells- must be cut every 7 days for at least two times.

2. Shake your bees. Reduce the adult population by about 50%. Must also cut all queen cells out.
3. Cage the queen for one week so they don't successfully swarm.
4. Split the colony and add new queen to portion that is queenless.

QUEEN REARING

Harry Laidlaw

Refer to handouts for details.

Swarm Cells is an excellent method of raising queens.

Miller Method- Take a frame of foundation, put it down into productive colony in the center of the brood chamber. She will lay 1500 eggs a day, take it out and make cuts in the foundation. Cut it and put in a queenless colony, nuc of young bees. They will start making brood cells. They will raise about 20 queen cells, then you move it into a new colony (NUC).

- [Nicot Queen Rearing Methods](#)
- [Hopkins Queen Rearing Method](#)
- [Cooper Method of Queen Rearing](#)
- [Cell Punch Method Queen Rearing](#)
- [Doolittle Queen Rearing](#)