

There is another point to be observed ; avoid a windy day, and have your back to the sun while watching bees in flight. The sun shining on them will show their flight, and you will soon see them pass each other frequently. An old hand can tell at a glance which are the loaded bees going home, by their straight, business-like flight, as distinguished from the easier, and generally higher, flight of light bees going in search of honey. Before long you will see the bees crossing each other in their flight, which is caused by circular flight of both outward and inward-bound insects, as they seldom, if ever, either leave or enter home in a perfectly straight line. The hive will be now at your mercy.

Another method of finding bees is to steadily work out a section of the bush and look the trees over, assisted by the flight. Watching is very effective, and many hives are often found quite close together, not infrequently two in the same tree.

Having found the hive, the next business is to secure it. This often entails cutting down the tree. You should have with you your axe, swarming - box, smoker, a pannikin, and a small ventilated box about the size of a tin matchbox, to put the queen-bee in. A tin matchbox will do if well cleaned. A bucket will also be required for the honey. The novice may also like to have a bee-net on to protect the face and neck.

After the tree is fallen, the smoke should be used freely around the mouth of the hive. Then cut the tree across, and after using the smoker split out the pieces so as to have the comb exposed. Then cut out the honey first, or as much of it as possible, keeping a sharp look out for the queen-bee, which you cannot mistake, as she is longer in the body than any of the others. Directly you see her, follow her up, and secure her in the small box with half a dozen other bees to keep her company. She rarely stings, so it is easy to catch her. Be most careful not to hurt her, or your labour will be practically lost. When you have her safe, hang the little box inside the swarm-box, leaving the lid a little open, and you will have secured

your swarm, as the bees will go to their queen. As you proceed the bees will cluster, and you can carefully scoop these up with your pannikin, and empty them into the swarm-box. If you have not previously secured the queen-bee, you may, by chance, put her in with these without knowing it. But if you do you will soon find it out by the way the bees crowd in after her. But until they go in, and remain there, you may be sure the queen is outside still, and must be sought for until you find her. Use your smoker freely to smoke them out of crannies. Wherever the bees cluster she is sure to be, and either by pannikin or fingers you must secure her, for without her your swarm is a useless one. Your swarm-box should be open about six inches, and tilted up to allow the bees to go uphill to the back part of it.

The bees themselves will tell you when their queen is with them in the box by humming constantly, whereas without her they make a grating or rasping sound. You should, however, as before stated, make a point of knowing the queen quickly, and securing her in the queen-box, suspending it by a string inside the swarm-box. This string will enable you to get the box out when you get home to your hive.

After getting your bees into your new hive, after the manner described, inspect the hive for a day or two, but do not interfere in any way with the occupants. They will begin to work at once, especially if you have been able to domicile them before dark. If you had not time to do so, get the work done at daylight next morning.

You can add to your apiary either by subdivision, or getting other bush hives, or by the slower way of bees swarming naturally. Should they, at any time, have swarmed unknown to you, you can always rely on finding the swarm to leeward of their hive. Your number of hives must depend on the amount of bee forage within one mile.

The following hints it would be well for the novice to bear well in mind : Bees particularly appreciate cleanliness. They require water, and must be in a position