

The usual practice is to leave the box sheltered from the sun and covered with a sack near the place where the swarm has settled. Where few hives are kept this may be done with impunity, but if other swarms are expected it is well to remove the box to the place where the colony is to stand permanently, otherwise before the close of the day the probabilities are very largely in favour of the box being taken possession of by three or four other swarms—a matter of annoyance to the man who wishes to keep his swarms separate.

In every case a swarm should be attended to as soon as it settles. Many people are under the impression that swarms should be left undisturbed till night-fall, but this idea is an erroneous one. They should invariably be placed in the box as soon as possible after the cluster is formed, and put so that they are sheltered from the rays of the sun.

WATER-SUPPLY.

One of the most important of the minor details of apiculture is the provision of a constant water-supply for the purpose of assisting the bees in brood-rearing. Not only is it necessary to conserve the energy of the bees by having the water close at hand, but it is well to ensure that they do not prove a nuisance at taps, cattle-troughs, &c. From early spring till late autumn water is an absolute necessity to bees, and they will consume comparatively immense quantities in fine weather. It thus behoves the beekeeper to see that a liberal supply is always available. By establishing his drinking-fountain early in the season he will teach the bees where to go for supplies, and ensure their always seeking the same spot for water.

—*E. A. Earp, Senior Apiary Instructor.*

THE GARDEN.

VEGETABLE-CULTURE.

In former notes it has been suggested that broccoli may very well be omitted in the warmest districts, cauliflowers being grown to take their place. The diamond-backed moth makes it difficult to grow broccoli in such places, as they must be planted when the moths are in full force. In other districts broccoli cannot be dispensed with. The moth is likely to cause some trouble in any locality, but the risk must be taken. In any case it will not be so serious a trouble as in warmer districts, mostly disappearing when autumn rains set in. The writer has been successful in preventing damage by the moth by giving the plants an early start, so as to secure good-sized plants before the moths become numerous—usually some little way into the New Year. With this object in view all the varieties to be grown should be sown at the same time—about the last week in October. The plants should be given every chance to make quick growth, and should be planted as soon as they are large enough. Good cultivation should be afforded, and a little nitrate of soda given to help them along. The plants should then be strong before the moths are troublesome, and if the latter do some damage to the outer leaves it will not matter if the growing centre is protected. This can be done by dropping a little hellebore powder on the heart of each plant. The hellebore will remain in position a long time. Rain will dissolve some of it and wash it farther in, but it takes a lot of rain to wash it out. Two or three applications at most will see the plants safely through. Early, mid-season, and late varieties should be grown, and though started together they will mature in the proper sequence.

Cauliflower of a giant kind should now be sown to give heads for use in autumn before broccoli come in. Brussels sprouts also should be sown, a long season of growth being necessary to obtain good crops.

French beans may be sown in all localities early in October, or somewhat earlier in extra-warm and frost-free places, where butter-beans may also be sown. For the cooler districts Canadian Wonder or varieties of the same type are best. Where broad beans were sown in June, or near that time, another sowing may be made in October, these two sowings being sufficient for the season. Runner beans should be sown early in October. To maintain a constant succession peas should be sown twice every month.