## The Trees and the Bees

Winter Woodlot Conference February the 22nd 2017 Achille Drouin

#### **Presentation Plan:**

- Basic knowledge: honey & humidity, nectar, honeydew, pollen, propolis and shelter
- Trees & pollen
- Trees & nectar
- Trees & honeydew
- Trees & propolis
- Trees & material used in the construction of the hive
- Trees & shelter

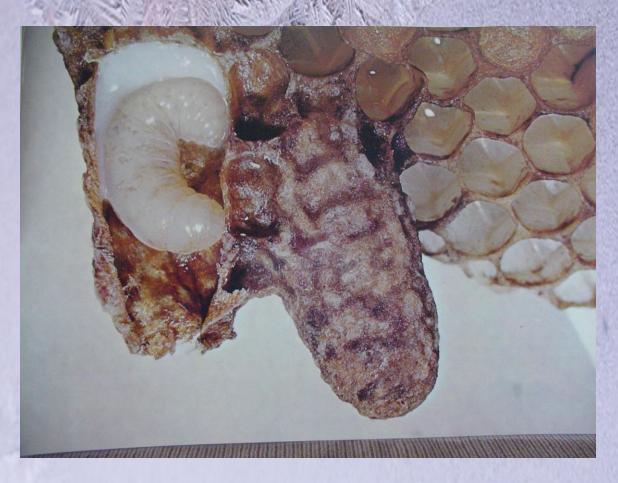
# Pollen



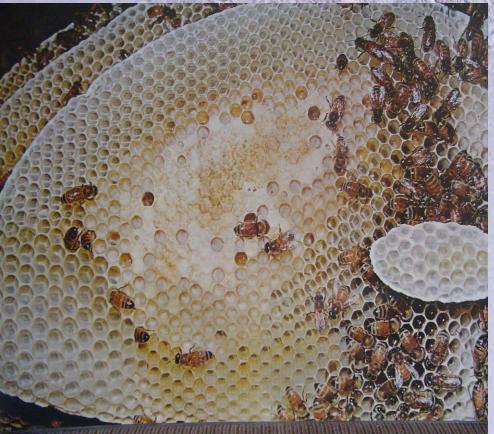
#### The Pollen: food for the brood



#### **The Pollen:** used to prepare the Royal Jelly



## Honey



#### % of humidity

- Honey <18%
- Nectar  $\pm 60\%$
- Honeydew ±25%

## Propolis



Resinous product which is:

- Used to asepticize the hive.
- Used to seal any openings.
- Used to stabilize the frames.

## **Trees & Pollen**

The first sources of pollen, in springtime: willows, aspen & maples.



#### **The Trees and Nectar**



Mostly in the Spring:

- The maple sap.
- Fruit trees: serviceberries, plum trees, cherries, pin cherries, apple trees, hawthorn & mountain ash
- Black locust, & basswood.

#### **The Trees & honeydew**

- Aphids use the proteins, but they reject the sugar of the sap
- Aphids are found on pines, fir, spruce, oaks, beech and willows.



## **The Trees and Honeydew**



#### **The Trees and Propolis**

The propolis is a resinous substance which is collected from the trees.Willows, aspen, birch, plum tree, pine, fir and spruce.

# The Trees and the material used in the construction of the hive.

#### White pine:

- Light
- Rot resistant...
- Does not warp
- Easy to work
- Knot free...

#### The Trees: a natural habitat



## The Trees: a natural habitat

The bees live in cavities: trees, building walls,......



#### **Trees provide a shelter**

When the bees come back from the field, if it is very windy, they might drift; with a shelter, it is less of a problem.

In winter, the shelter wood protects the hives from the cold northwest wind.

## Trees provide a shelter



## **Trees provide a shelter**



