

## BEE REPORT FROM BCOG'S BEEKEEPER - SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2015

Both hives are doing well. I split the original hive and put four thousand bees into the second hive and they have done well. The wet August severely reduced the bees' ability to forage and both colonies shrunk in size, to eke out their resources. The good weather in September allowed the bees to collect more nectar to overwinter but as a precaution I shall feed both hives this winter.

It has been a bad year for wasps and I have read of lots of colonies being robbed out and killed off by wasps. The original hive swarmed at the middle of May and I captured the bees and took them to Litton Cheney, where they increased rapidly. This hive swarmed at the beginning of August and followed by the bad weather became weak and was killed off by wasps.

Each year I get a little more honey, this year I took a comb to a group of Forest School children and it was greatly enjoyed. I may be biased but it is the best tasting honey I have experienced!

I am also collecting some wax, which I shall use to make candles.

*Jim Binning*