

the large breeder flock. Rotating toms every five to seven days in the large flock should be successful and at the same time hold labor to a minimum.

### Summary

A method of rotating toms in a turkey flock so that only half the toms are in the pen at one time has been described. This eliminates to a large extent the preference shown by certain toms and hens to mate and consequently increases the fertility of the eggs with a minimum of labor on the part of the flock owner.

### RECORD HONEY CROP IN 1954

Beekeepers in North Dakota produced 2,100,000 pounds of honey in 1954 according to the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service. Production of honey per colony was 140 pounds, the highest in the nation and equal to the 1953 record yield for North Dakota. The 1954 honey crop is the largest since 1946. Number of colonies was placed at 15,000, the most since 1949.

Average price received for honey sold was 13.4 cents per pound, wholesale and retail combined. Value of the honey crop was placed at \$281,000 and value of the beeswax was \$18,000. Stocks of honey still on hand and for sale at the end of 1954 were 252,000 pounds compared with 273,000 pounds at the close of 1953.

For the United States, honey production in 1954 totaled 217,414,000 pounds, three per cent less than in 1953 and the smallest crop since 1948. Production per colony was 39.8 pounds. The 1954 crop was produced by 5,467,000 colonies of bees. Because of the widespread drought, honey yields per colony in 1954 were the lowest since 1948. Yields were down in all regions of the country except the West and South Atlantic.

Beekeepers received an average price of 17 cents per pound for all honey sold in 1954, including the combined wholesale and retail sales of extracted, chunk and comb honey, about three per cent higher than for 1953.

### FARM POPULATION ON DECREASE

The farm population is still going down. A recent survey by the Census Bureau shows there are now less than 22 million people living on American farms. Half a dozen years ago there were over 25 million.

The farm population is dropping while the total population of the country is still going up.

In 1950 the farm population made up 16 per cent of the total population. Today, only 13 and one-half per cent of all the people in the United States live on farms.

Date	Total population (in thousands)	Farm population (in thousands)	Farm population as a % of the total	Index of Farm Output (1935-39=100)	% of Increase
1910.....	91,855	32,077	35	79	---
1920.....	106,089	31,556	30	92	16
1930.....	122,775	29,447	24	95	3
1940.....	131,820	29,047	22	110	16
1950.....	151,132	24,335	16	136	24