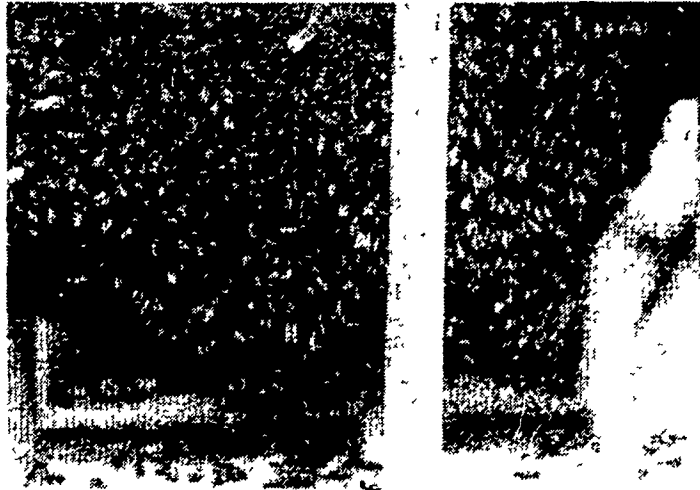


Northeastern beekeepers

(Continued from Page B12) But Saturday's tiny travelers from Georgia were welcomed warmly by beekeepers from approximately \$4,000 damage in bee loss during inclement weather.



Nearly three pounds of worker bees seem none the worse for wear, following their long journey that ended in wet, blustery southeast Pennsylvania.

Montgomery, Berks, Bucks, Chester and Philadelphia Counties. In addition, out-of-state bee enthusiasts from New York and New Jersey arrived to claim their orders.

Once the truck arrived and the plywood was removed, a human "bee-brigade," unloaded 1,500 pounds of the honey-makers. Within 30 minutes, the PVA's warehouse had thousands of new inhabitants, slowly aroused by the warmth of the building.

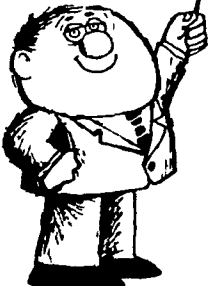
Brooks and wife Astrid, co-owners and beekeepers of the apiary instructed the new beeowners on hiving the colony and introducing them to the queen. Although the queen and her workers traveled together in a plywood and net package, she remained separated in a wood enclosure. The queen and workers had been together only 24 hours and Astrid Brooks explained it may take as long as two or three days for the workers to acclimate to the new queen.

The PVA, located about 10 miles east of Pottstown operates 500 hives a year and merchandises honey under their own label to more than 50 health food stores in the region. They specialize in unfiltered honey, the raw product heated just enough to permit flow.

The Brooks said they expected to complete expansion of the facility, by July 1982, which would permit the entire processing, bottling and storage facilities to be housed under one roof.



Astrid Brooks, left, lends a hand as she helps husband Robert, right, unload a truck laden with 1,500 pounds of honey bees.



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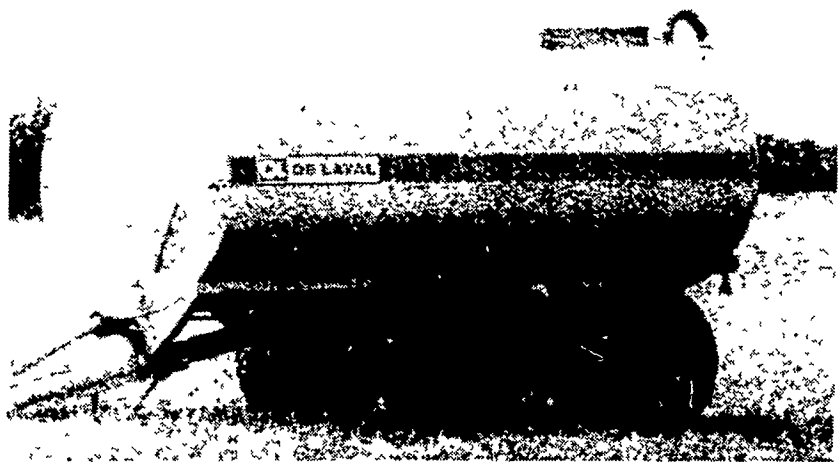
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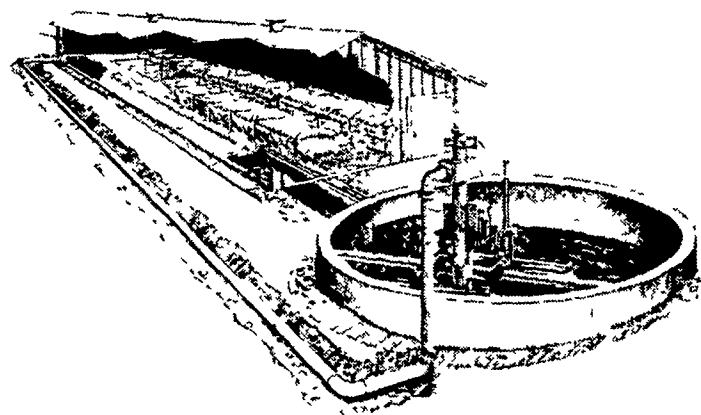


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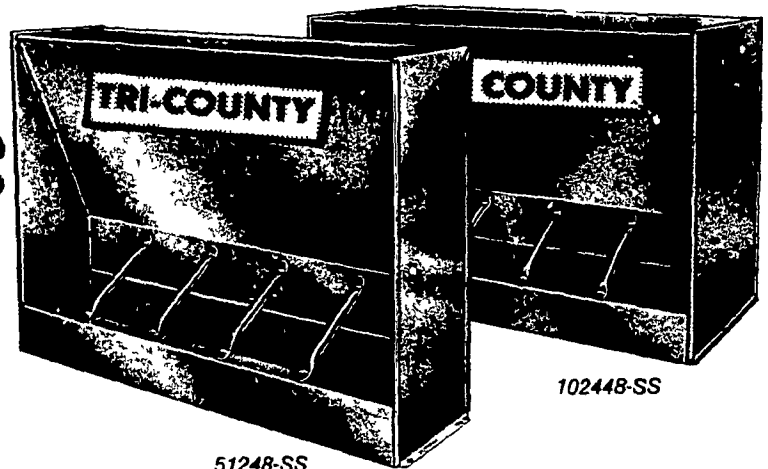


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