

1914

## c 107 Swarms of Bees Act

Ontario

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## CHAPTER 107.

## An Act respecting the right of Property in Swarms of Bees.

**H**IS MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, enacts as follows:—

Short title.

**1.** This Act may be cited as *The Swarms of Bees Act*.  
10 Edw. VII. c. 48, s. 1.

Bees in a state of freedom to be the property of discoverer.

**2.** Bees living in a state of freedom shall be the property of the person discovering them, whether he is or is not the proprietor of the land on which they have established themselves.  
10 Edw. VII. c. 48, s. 2.

In hives, private property.

**3.** Bees reared and kept in hives shall be private property.  
10 Edw. VII. c. 48, s. 3.

[As to exemption from seizure under execution see *The Execution Act, Rev. Stat. c. 80.*]

Rights of owner where bees abandon their hives.

**4.**—(1) Where a swarm of bees leaves a hive the owner may reclaim them, so long as he can prove his right of property therein, and shall be entitled to take possession of them at any place on which the swarm settles, even if such place be on the land of another person, but the owner shall notify the proprietor of such land beforehand and compensate him for all damages.

Exception.

(2) If a swarm settles in a hive which is already occupied the owner of such swarm shall lose all right of property therein. 10 Edw. VII. c. 48, s. 4.

Unpursued swarms.

**5.** An unpursued swarm which lodges on any property, without settling thereon, may be secured by the first comer unless the proprietor of the land objects. 10 Edw. VII. c. 48, s. 5.

Property where owner declines to follow his bees.

**6.** If the owner of a swarm declines to follow the swarm, and another person undertakes the pursuit, such other person shall be substituted in the rights of the owner, and every swarm which is not followed shall become the property of the proprietor of the land on which it settles, without regard to the place from which it has come. 10 Edw. VII. c. 48, s. 6.