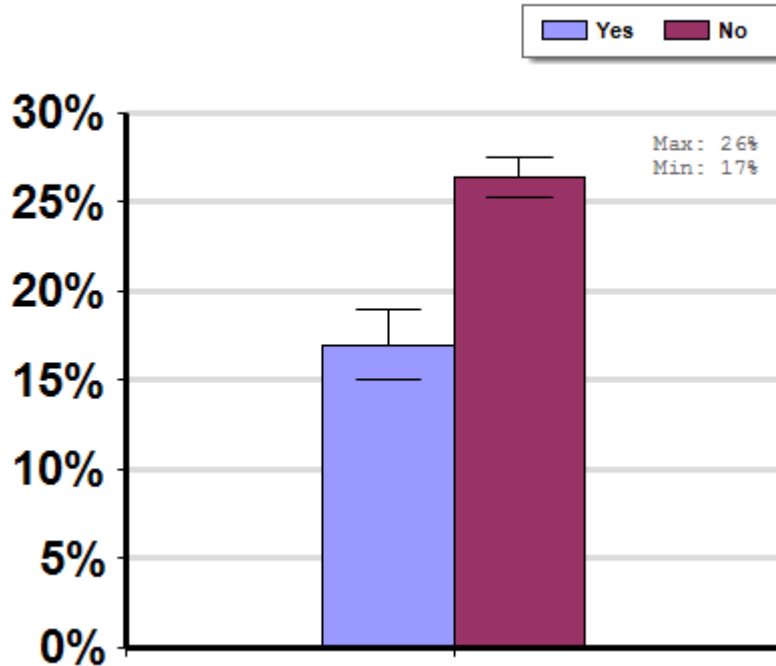# Brood Comb Reuse

Average winter colony mortality reported by beekeepers who did or did not re-use any old brood comb in their colonies between April, 2011 and March, 2012.
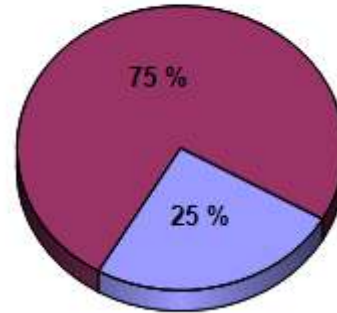
Winter

Some Significant Differences

Legend: Yes (light purple), No (dark red)

Max: 26%
Min: 17%

Respondent Ratio

75%
25%

Interpretation

Beekeepers who reported that they did not reuse comb lost on average 4.7 fewer colonies per 100 managed colonies than those who did reuse old comb. In other words, beekeepers who didn't reuse old brood comb lost an average 18.4% fewer colonies than beekeepers who reused old comb.

Survey Question

Between April, 2011 and March, 2012, before you re-used brood comb that you had taken out of production or purchased, did you...

Check all that apply
I did not reuse any old brood comb
Cull any particularly old or bad combs and replace them
Irradiate the comb
Fumigate the comb with acetic acid
Freeze the comb
Store the comb with paradichlorobenzene crystals
Did not treat the comb in any particular way
Other (please specify)

		Total Number of Respondents Providing Valid Responses	Total Number of Colonies Managed	Average Number of Colonies Managed		Average Colony Loss		
				Mean	Standard Error	Mean(%)	Lower 95% CI	Upper 95% CI
Did Not Reuse comb	No	2,778	222,940	80.3	15.0	**26.4**	25.3	27.5
	Yes	927	4,908	5.3	0.8	**17.0**	15.0	18.9

Comments About This Data

Relevant Links, References, and Citations

Funded By: USDA   NIFA   United States Department of Agriculture   National Institute of Food and Agriculture