



The Bee Informed Partnership
Management Survey Results (2013)
Respondent Profile

BeelInformed.org

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Summary Winter Loss in Northern and Southern States Excluding Multiregional Operations

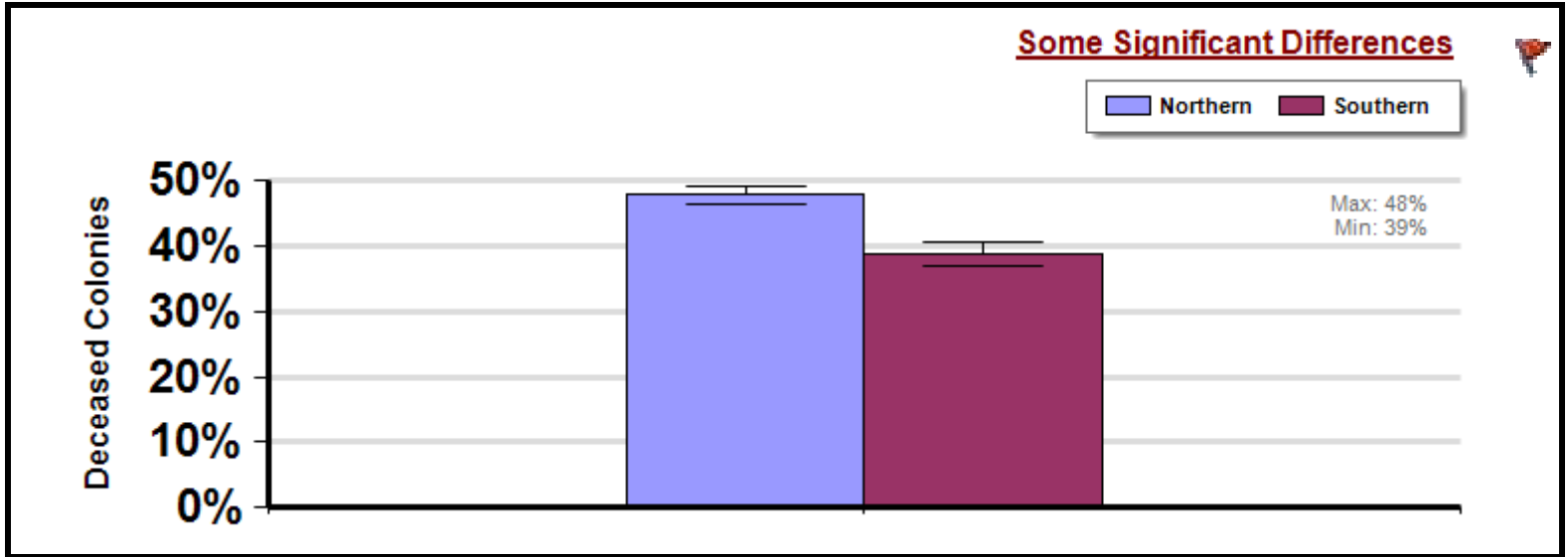
Management Survey 2013

(Filtered by:)

Winter

Report ID: 29-2013

Average winter loss in beekeeping operations that maintained colonies exclusively in northern states (CO, CT, DE, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MS, MT, NB, ND, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, SD, VT, WA, WI, WY) and Southern states (AL, AR, AZ, CA, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, NM, NV, OK, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV) between April and March. Losses in operations that operate in both northern and southern states are not presented.



Participant Ratio



Interpretation

Southern beekeepers reported 9 fewer overwintering colony deaths per 100 managed colonies than those who kept bees in the Northern States. In other words, Southern beekeepers lost 18.8% fewer colonies than Northern beekeepers.

Survey Question

	Total Number of Respondents Providing Valid Responses	Total Number of Colonies Managed	Average Colony Loss	Percentage of respondents, by operation size, in each region		
			Mean(%) [Lower, Upper] CI	Backyard	Sideline	Commercial
Northern	2,531	66,279	48% [46%, 49%]	64.6%	59.4%	36.4%
Southern	1,414	82,493	39% [37%, 41%]	35.4%	40.6%	63.6%

Comments About This Data

Relevant Links, References, and Citations

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Losses in Geographic Sub-Regions Excluding Multiregional Operations

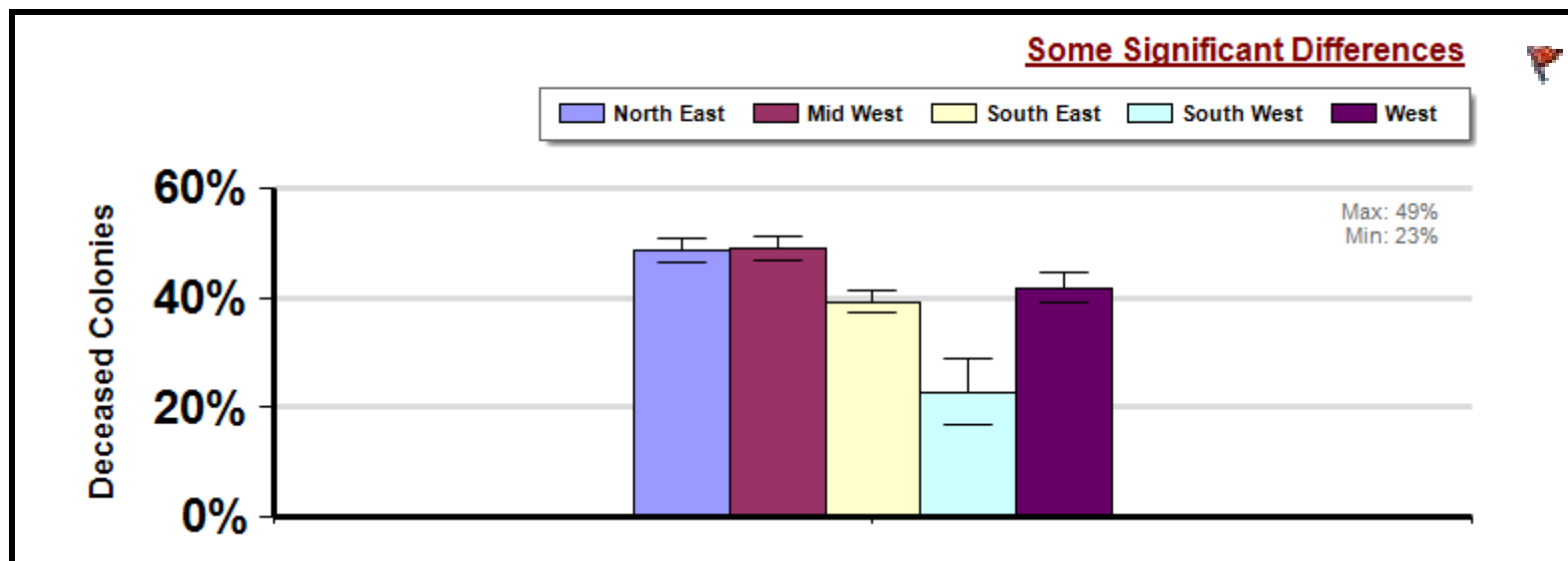
Management
Survey 2013

Winter

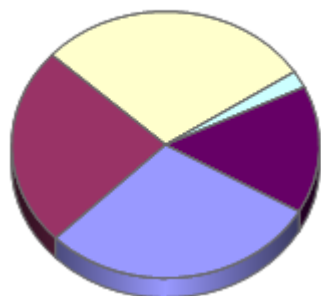
Report ID: 26-
2013

Average winter loss suffered by beekeepers who kept their colonies exclusively in different geographic sub-regions of the US including the Northeast (CT, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT), Midwest (IA, IL, IN, KS, MI, MN, MO, ND, NE, OH, SD, WI), South-East (AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV), Southwest (AZ, NM, OK, TX), and West (CA, CO, ID, MT, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY) between April and March. Beekeepers who managed bees in more than one region are excluded.

(Filtered by:)



Participant Ratio



Interpretation

Beekeepers who kept bees in the Southwest had significantly less overwintering colony deaths than beekeepers who kept colonies in the Northeast, Midwest, Southeast and West sub-regions of the US. Beekeepers in the Southeast experienced significantly less overwintering colony deaths than beekeepers in the Northeast and Midwest regions.

Survey Question

	Total Number of Respondents Providing Valid Responses	Total Number of Colonies Managed	Average Colony Loss	Percentage of respondents, by operation size, in each region		
			Mean(%) [Lower, Upper] CI	Backyard	Sideliner	Commercial
North East	1,164	16,519	49% [47%, 51%]	29.8%	23.7%	10.2%
Mid West	957	37,308	49% [47%, 51%]	24.2%	25.4%	10.2%
South East	1,152	19,068	39% [37%, 41%]	29.4%	26.0%	8.2%

South West	83	1,007	23% [17%, 29%]	2.1%	2.3%	0.0%
West	614	118,963	42% [39%, 45%]	14.4%	22.6%	71.4%

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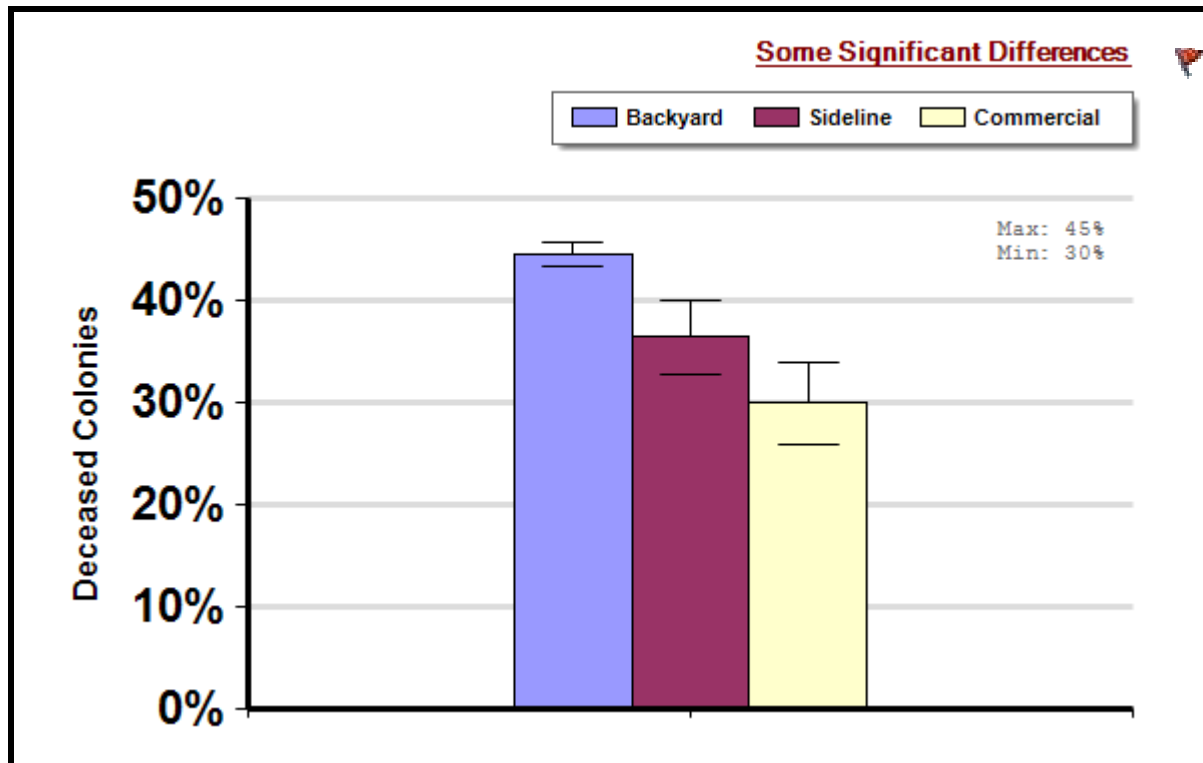
Loss By Operation Size

Management
Survey 2013

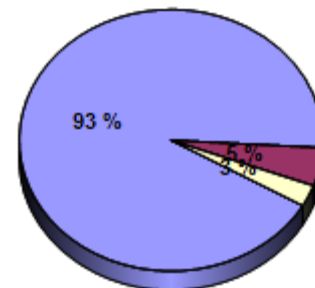
Average winter loss reported by backyard beekeepers (managed fewer than 50 colonies), sideline beekeepers (managed between 51 and 500 colonies) and commercial beekeepers (managed more than 500 colonies).

Winter

Report ID: 8-2013



Participant Ratio



Interpretation

Commercial beekeepers lost 15 fewer overwintering colonies per 100 managed colonies (33.3% fewer losses) than backyard beekeepers. Sideline beekeepers saw 9 fewer colony losses per 100 managed colonies (20% fewer losses) than backyard beekeepers.

Survey Question

	Total Number of Respondents Providing Valid Responses	Total Number of Colonies Managed	Average Colony Loss	Total Colony Loss
			Mean(%) [Lower, Upper] CI	Total [Lower,Upper]
Backyard	3,819	27,748	45% [43%, 46%]	43% [42%, 43%]
Sideline	196	29,274	36% [33%, 40%]	35% [31%, 38%]
Commercial	110	553,443	30% [26%, 34%]	29% [26%, 33%]

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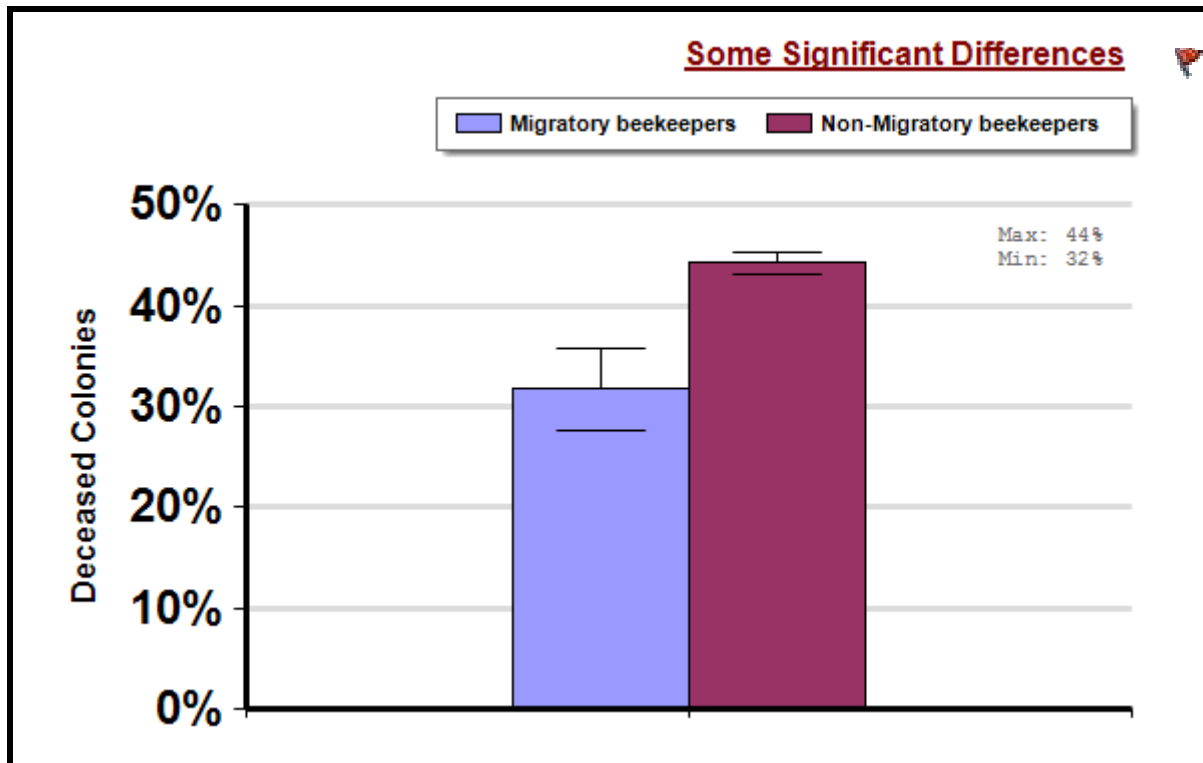
Reported Average Loss By Operation Type (Migratory)

Management Survey 2013

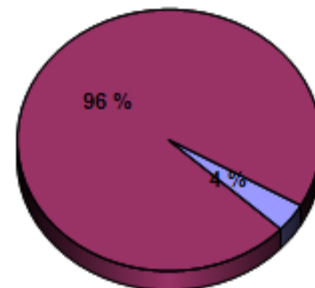
Winter

Migratory beekeepers were beekeepers who moved a majority of their colonies, at least once, across state lines between April and March.

Report ID: 11-2013



Participant Ratio



Interpretation

Migratory beekeepers reported 12 fewer overwintering colony deaths per 100 managed colonies than non-migratory beekeepers. In other words, migratory beekeepers lost 27.3% fewer colonies than non-migratory beekeepers.

Survey Question

	Total Number of Respondents Providing Valid Responses	Total Number of Colonies Managed	Average Colony Loss
			Mean(%) [Lower, Upper] CI
Migratory beekeepers	146	466,332	32% [28%, 36%]
Non-Migratory beekeepers	3,979	144,133	44% [43%, 45%]

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Average Loss in operations with different Beekeeping Management Philosophies

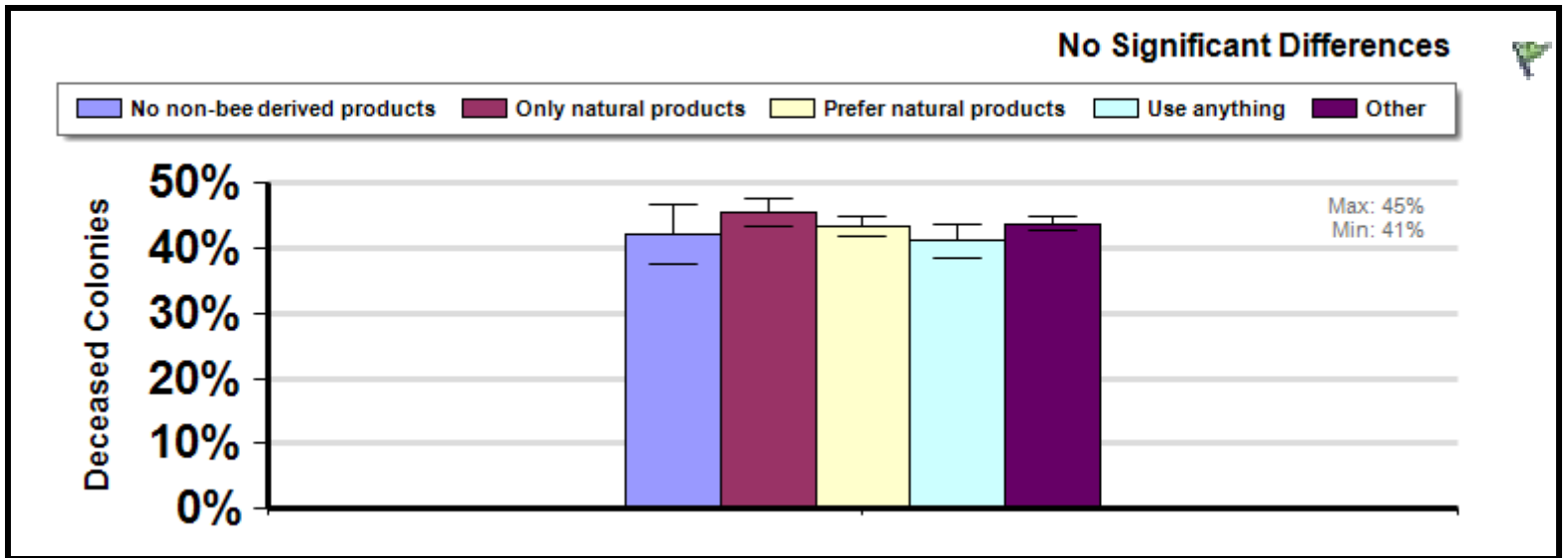
Management Survey 2013

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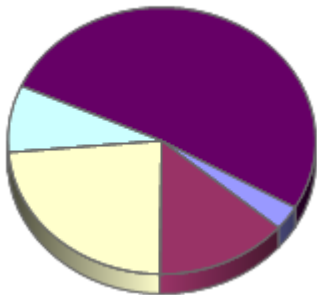
Winter

Average winter loss suffered by beekeepers who had different beekeeping management philosophies between April and March.

Report ID: 20-2013



Participant Ratio



Interpretation

Beekeepers who indicated that they are only willing to use natural products in their colonies did not report losing more or less colonies than those who are willing to use non-bee derived products.

Survey Question

	Total Number of Respondents Providing Valid Responses	Total Number of Colonies Managed	Average Colony Loss	Percentage of respondents in different operation size classifications who indicated a particular management philosophy		
			Mean(%) [Lower, Upper] CI	Backyard	Sideline	Commercial
No non-bee derived products	237	3,228	42% [38%, 47%]	5.9%	4.6%	0.9%
Only natural products	1,109	17,762	45% [43%, 48%]	28.1%	16.3%	3.6%
Prefer natural products	1,874	212,486	43% [42%, 45%]	45.5%	43.9%	44.5%
Use anything	653	276,462	41% [39%, 44%]	14.8%	24.5%	37.3%

Other	4,125	610,465	44% [43%, 45%]	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
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Average Loss By Percent Income Derived From Beekeeping

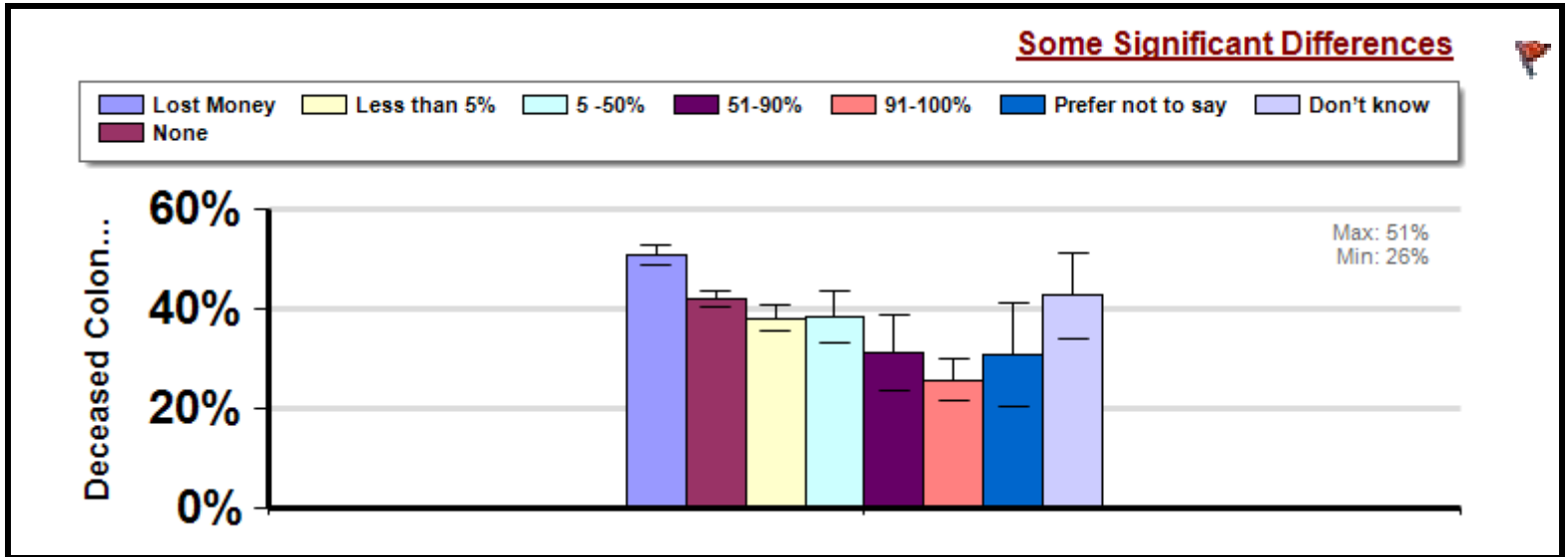
Management Survey 2013

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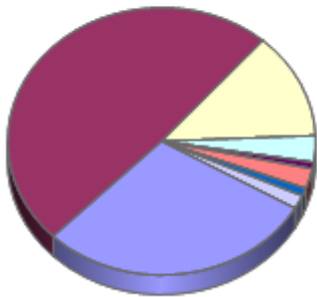
Winter

Average loss suffered by proportion of total income derived from beekeeping activity differed from April to March.

Report ID: 17-2013



Participant Ratio



Interpretation

Beekeepers who made more than 90% of their income from beekeeping activity lost fewer colonies than those who made less than 50% of income from beekeeper activities.

Survey Question

	Total Number of Respondents Providing Valid Responses	Total Number of Colonies Managed	Average Colony Loss	Percentage of respondents in each operation size classification who indicated a particular proportion of their income was derived by beekeeping activities		
			Mean(%) [Lower, Upper] CI	Backyard	Sideline	Commercial
Lost Money	1,102	16,726	51% [49%, 53%]	30.3%	19.2%	3.0%
None	1,856	10,583	42% [40%, 44%]	52.5%	7.3%	0.0%

Less than 5%	488	9,420	38% [36%, 41%]	12.9%	20.3%	0.0%
5 -50%	121	17,172	39% [33%, 44%]	1.8%	29.4%	7.0%
51-90%	30	67,459	31% [24%, 39%]	0.1%	6.8%	16.0%
91-100%	92	408,856	26% [22%, 30%]	0.0%	10.7%	73.0%
Prefer not to say	37	1,600	31% [20%, 41%]	0.9%	4.0%	0.0%
Don't know	62	2,118	43% [34%, 51%]	1.6%	2.3%	1.0%

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Average Loss By Reason Responding Beekeepers Indicated they Kept Bees

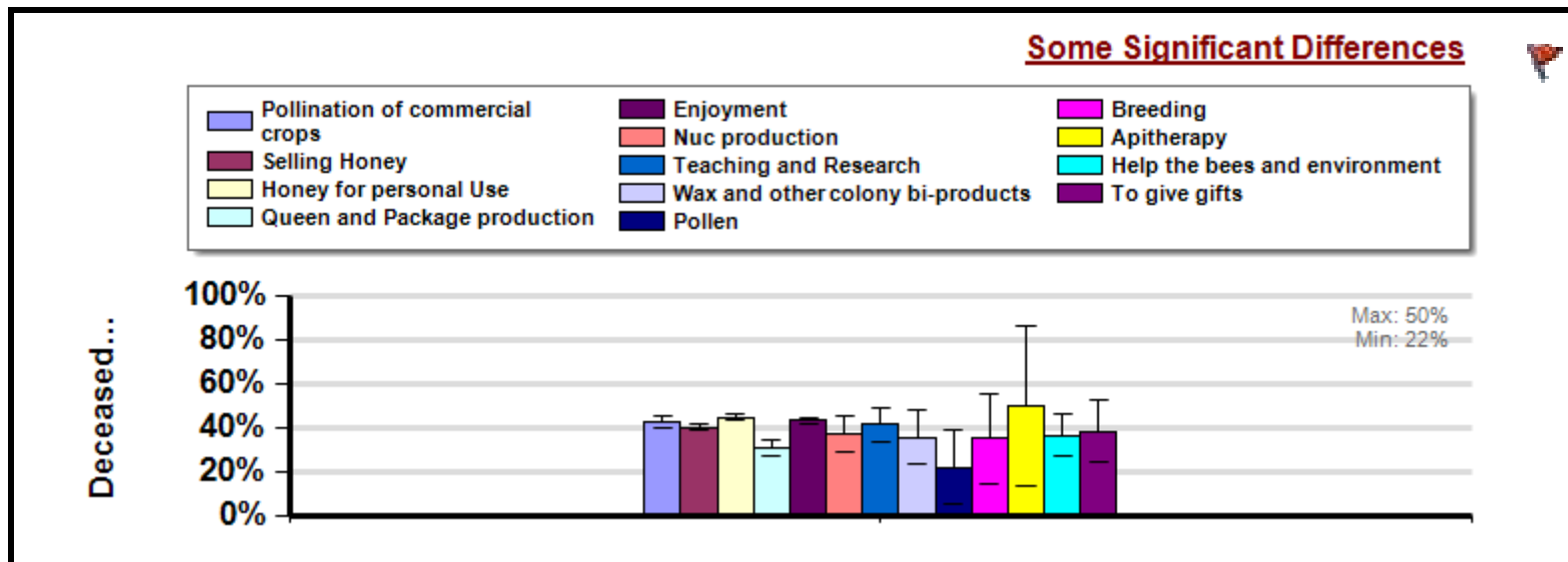
Management Survey 2013

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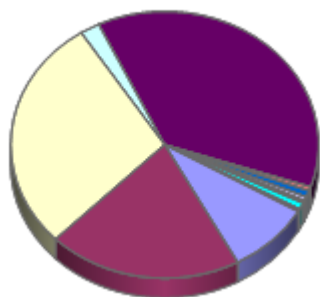
Winter

Average loss suffered by beekeepers who indicated the reason or reasons they kept bees between April and March.

Report ID: 14-2013



Participant Ratio



Interpretation

Beekeepers who kept bees for queen and package production lost fewer overwintering colonies than those who kept bees for enjoyment, for pollination of commercial crops, to produce honey for personal use or to sell honey for profit.

Survey Question

	Total Number of Respondents Providing Valid Responses	Total Number of Colonies Managed	Average Colony Loss	Percentage of responding beekeepers in each operations size classification who indicated a particular reason they kept bees. Respondents could indicate more than one reason.		
			Mean(%) [Lower, Upper] CI	Backyard	Sideline	Commercial
Pollination of commercial crops	679	456,511	43% [40%, 45%]	14.8%	44.4%	84.8%
Selling Honey	1,567	498,700	41% [39%, 42%]	37.7%	88.9%	93.9%
Honey for personal Use	2,184	36,814	45% [44%, 47%]	61.1%	22.2%	10.1%

Queen and Package production	160	145,451	31% [27%, 35%]	2.6%	25.6%	25.3%
Enjoyment	2,864	71,831	43% [42%, 45%]	79.7%	40.0%	11.1%
Nuc production	37	17,880	37% [29%, 46%]	0.6%	7.2%	3.0%
Teaching and Research	62	961	42% [34%, 50%]	1.7%	2.2%	0.0%
Wax and other colony bi-products	37	1,630	36% [24%, 48%]	1.0%	1.1%	1.0%
Pollen	9	2,343	22% [6%, 39%]	0.2%	0.0%	2.0%
Breeding	9	4,268	35% [15%, 56%]	0.2%	0.0%	2.0%
Apitherapy	6	1,192	50% [14%, 87%]	0.1%	0.0%	1.0%
Help the bees and environment	62	320	37% [27%, 46%]	1.8%	0.0%	0.0%
To give gifts	25	122	39% [25%, 53%]	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%

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