



# The Bee Informed Partnership Management Survey Results (2012) Feeding: Carbohydrates

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Funded by:



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

National Institute  
of Food  
and Agriculture

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# Carbohydrate Feed Use

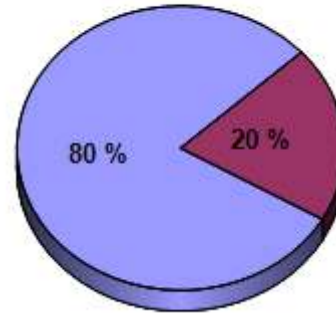
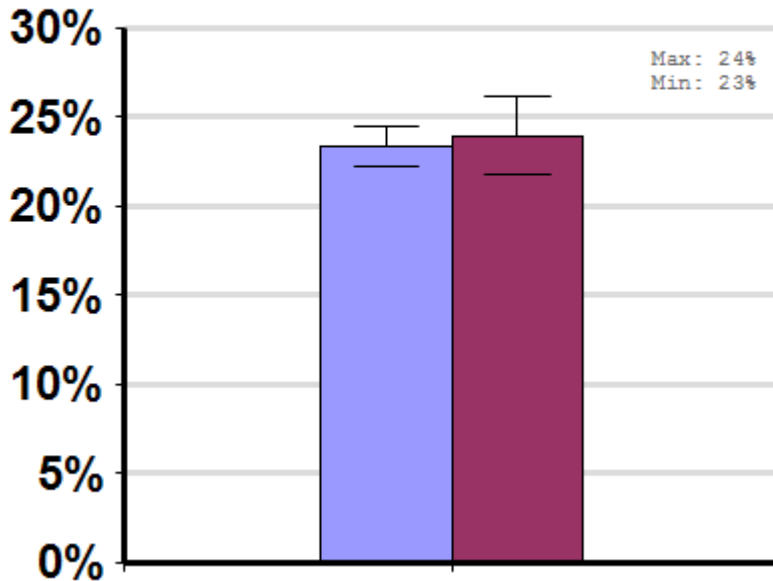
## Winter

Report ID: 164-2012

A comparison of average winter colony mortality among beekeepers who did or did not feed carbohydrates to a majority of their colonies, at least once, between April, 2011 and March, 2012.

No Significant Differences

Respondent Ratio



### Interpretation

No differences between groups.

### Survey Question

Which, if any of the following, did you apply to a majority of your colonies between April 1, 2011 and March, 2012?

- Candy
- Dry sugar
- High Fructose Corn Syrup (HFCS)
- Honey
- Sugar syrup
- Wet supers

		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
	Product Not Used	726	25,694	35.4	11.6	23.9	21.7	26.2
	Product Used	2,883	207,564	72.0	14.4	23.3	22.2	24.4

### Comments About This Data

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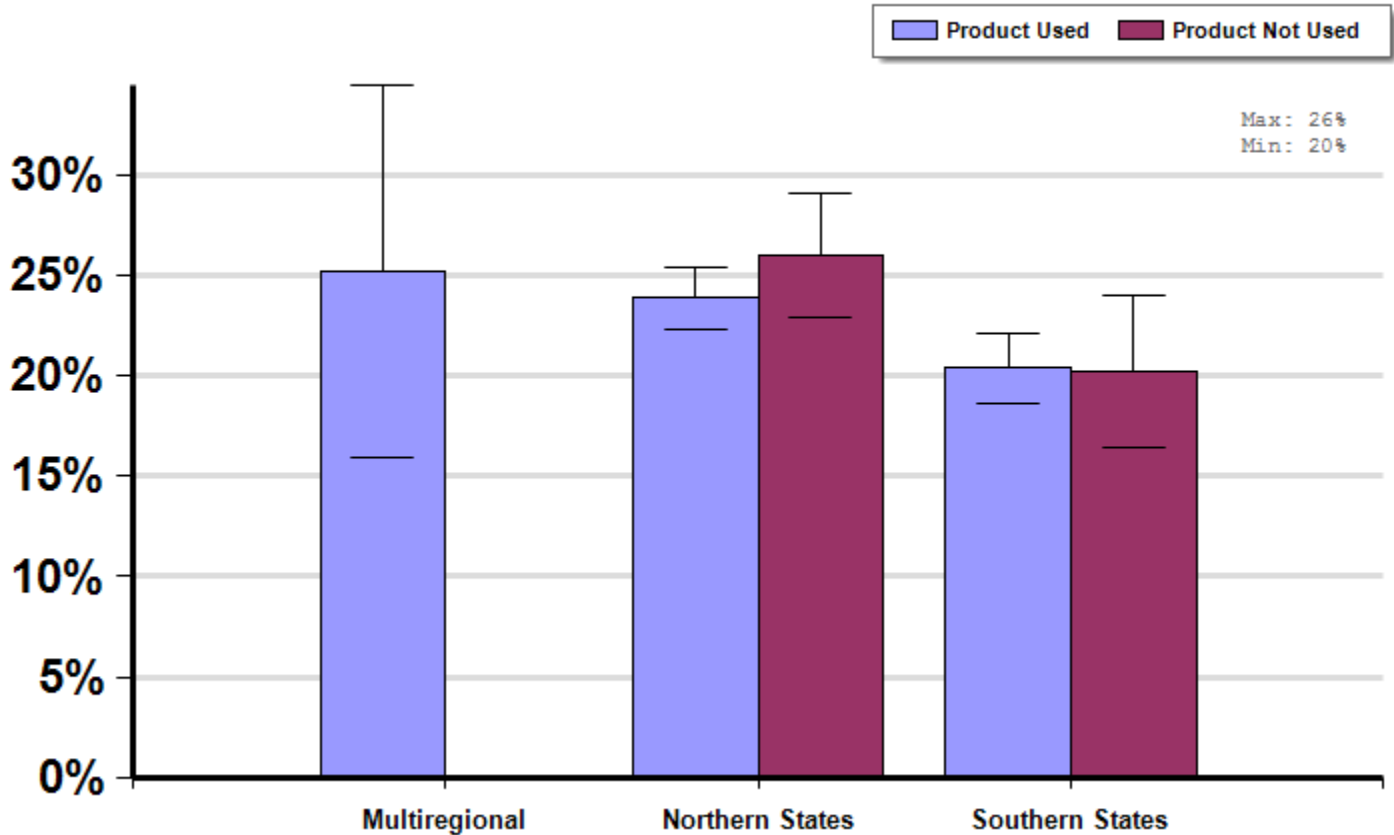
# Carbohydrate Feed Use By Region

A comparison of average winter colony mortality among beekeepers who reported they fed or did not feed carbohydrates to a majority of their colonies, at least once, between April, 2011 and March, 2012 by region of operation.

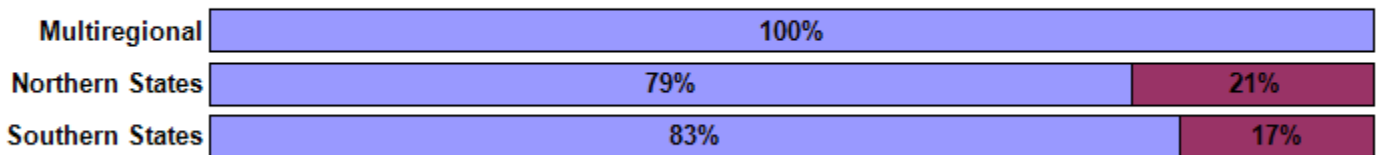
## Winter

Report ID: 167-2012

No Significant Differences (within regions)



## Respondent Ratio



## Interpretation

No difference between groups.

## Survey Question

Which, if any of the following, did you apply to a majority of your colonies between April 1, 2011 and March, 2012?

- Candy
- Dry sugar
- High Fructose Corn Syrup (HFCS)
- Honey
- Sugar syrup

-Wet supers

		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
Multiregional	Product Used	34	41,278	1214.1	646.6	25.2	15.9	34.4
Northern States	Product Used	1,559	91,751	58.9	18.2	23.9	22.3	25.4
	Product Not Used	408	5,348	13.1	2.2	26.0	22.9	29.1
Southern States	Product Used	943	31,652	33.6	10.3	20.4	18.6	22.1
	Product Not Used	190	3,192	16.8	5.8	20.2	16.5	24.0

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# Carbohydrate Feed Use By Product

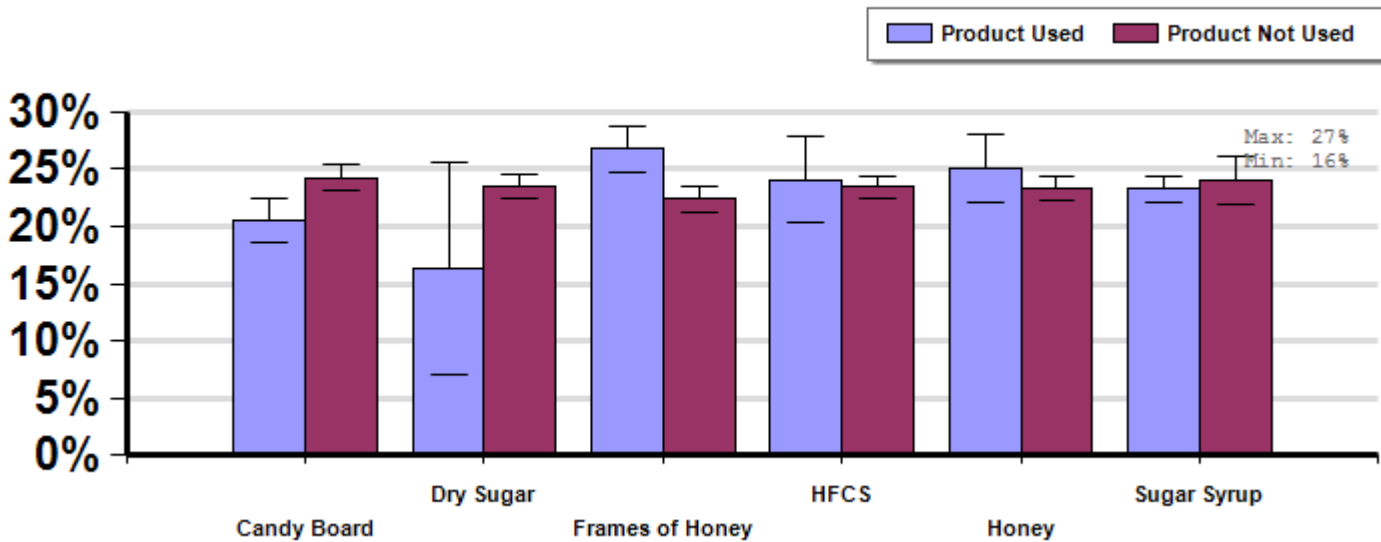
Management Survey 2012

## Winter

Report ID: 170-2012

A comparison of average winter colony mortality among beekeepers who reported they did feed or did not feed specified carbohydrate feed products to a majority of their colonies, at least once, between April, 2011 and March, 2012.

*Some Significant Differences*



## Interpretation

Beekeepers who fed colonies with candy board reported 3.7 less over wintering colony deaths per 100 managed colonies than those who did not report feeding colonies with candy board. In other words, beekeepers who fed colonies with candy board lost 15.3% less colonies than those who used other methods. Those that fed colonies with frames of honey reported 4.4 more overwintering deaths per 100 managed colonies than those who did not report feeding colonies with frames of honey. In other words, beekeepers who fed colonies with frames of honey lost 16.5% more colonies than those that used other methods. For all other carbohydrate feed products (dry sugar, High Fructose Corn Syrup (HFCS), honey, sugar syrup or wet supers), beekeepers using those specified products did not suffer fewer or greater losses when compared to beekeepers who did not report using that product.

## Survey Question

Which, if any of the following, did you apply to a majority of your colonies between April 1, 2011 and March, 2012?

- Candy Board
- Dry Sugar
- Frames of Honey
- HFCS
- Honey
- Sugar Syrup

		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
Candy Board	Product Used	794	13,462	17.0	7.9	20.6	18.6	22.5
	Product Not Used	2,815	219,796	78.1	14.8	24.3	23.1	25.4
Dry Sugar	Product Used	23	552	24.0	16.9	16.3	7.0	25.6
	Product Not Used	3,586	232,706	64.9	11.8	23.5	22.5	24.5
Frames of Honey	Product Used	895	65,495	73.2	30.5	26.8	24.7	28.8
	Product Not Used	2,714	167,763	61.8	11.9	22.4	21.3	23.5
HFCS	Product Used	182	159,604	876.9	214.4	24.1	20.3	27.8
	Product Not Used	3,427	73,654	21.5	3.5	23.4	22.4	24.4
Honey	Product Used	390	6,605	16.9	6.1	25.1	22.1	28.1
	Product Not Used	3,219	226,653	70.4	13.1	23.3	22.2	24.3
Sugar Syrup	Product Used	2,819	145,090	51.5	10.8	23.3	22.2	24.4
	Product Not Used	790	88,168	111.6	37.1	24.0	21.9	26.1

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