



The Bee Informed Partnership  
Management Survey Results (2013)  
Carbohydrate Feed

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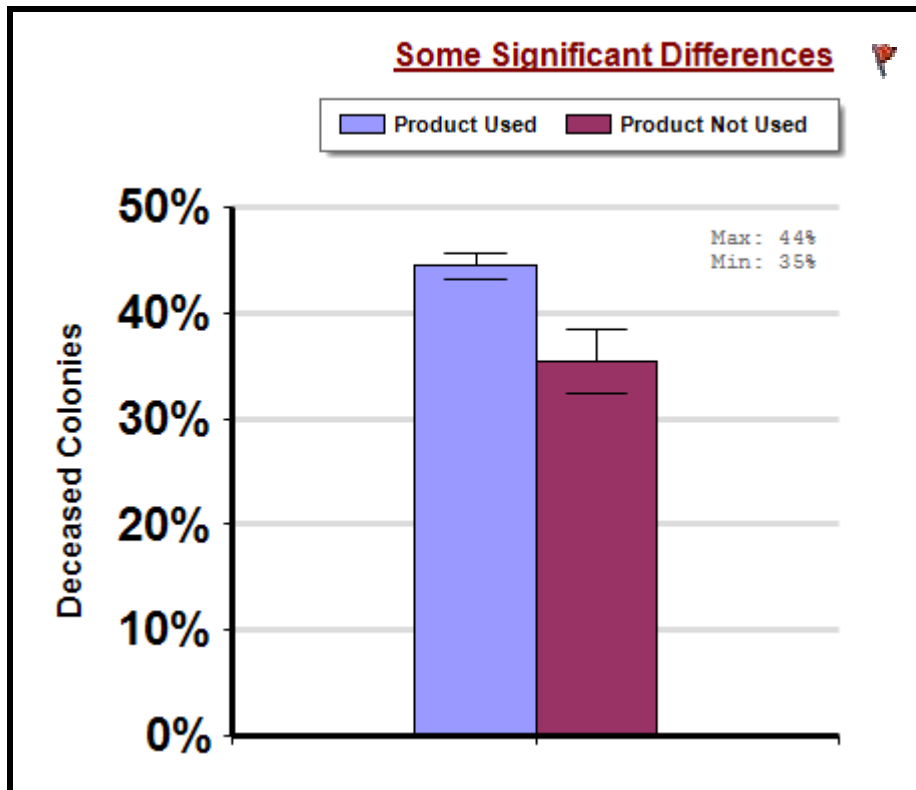
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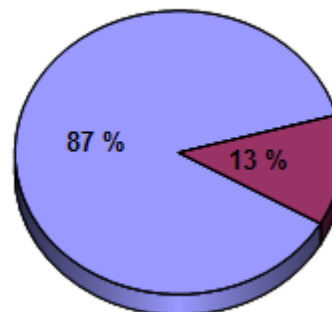
A comparison of average winter colony mortality among beekeepers who did or did not feed carbohydrates to a majority of their colonies, at least once, between April and March.

## Winter

Report ID: 164-2013



## Participant Ratio



## Interpretation

Beekeepers who reported feeding with carbohydrates reported 9 fewer overwintering colony deaths per 100 managed colonies than those who did not report feeding their colonies with carbohydrates. In other words, beekeepers who reported feeding with carbohydrates lost 20.2% fewer colonies than those who did not report feeding with carbohydrates.

## Survey Question

Which, if any of the following, did you apply to a majority of your colonies between April 1, 2012 and March, 2013?

- 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, Upper] CI
	Product Not	477	116,028	243.2	68.8	35.5 [32.5, 38.5]

	Used					
	Product Used	3,307	441,151	133.4	27.4	44.5 [43.3, 45.7]

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## Comments About This Data

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## Relevant Links, References, and Citations



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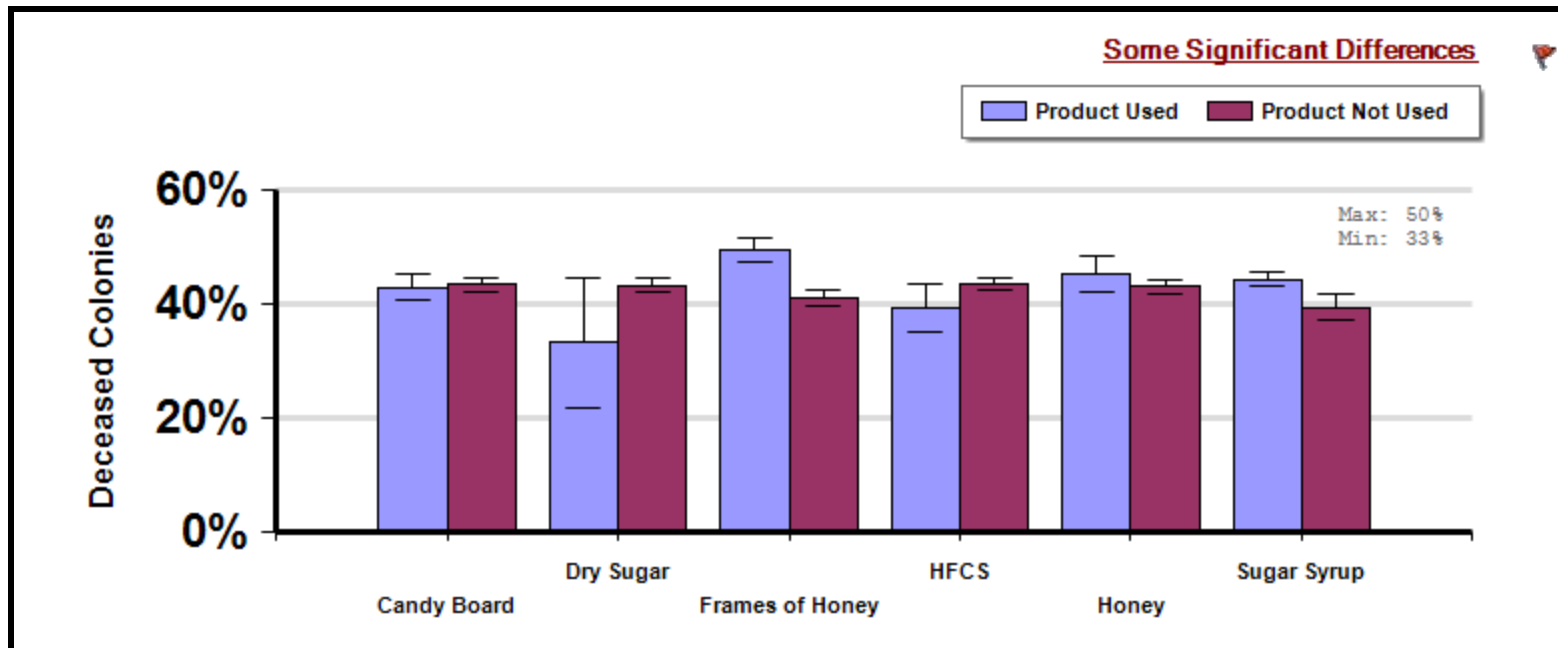
# Carbohydrate Feed Use By Product

Management Survey 2013

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 and March.

## Winter

Report ID: 170-2013



## Interpretation

Beekeepers who fed colonies with frames of honey reported 8.5 more overwintering colony 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 17% more colonies than those that used other methods. Also, beekeepers who fed colonies with sugar syrup reported 4.8 more overwintering colony deaths per 100 managed colonies than those who used other methods. In other words, beekeepers who fed colonies sugar syrup lost 10.8% more colonies than those who did not feed colonies with sugar syrup. For all other carbohydrate feed products (Candy board, Dry sugar, and HFCS), 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, 2012 and March, 2013?

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

		Total Number of Respondents Providing	Total Number of Colonies Managed	Average Number of Colonies Managed	Average Colony Loss

		Valid Responses				Mean(%) [Lower, Upper] CI
				Mean	Standard Error	
Candy Board	Product Used	835	13,797	16.5	5.7	43.0 [40.7,45.2]
	Product Not Used	2,949	543,382	184.3	32.6	43.4 [42.1,44.7]
Dry Sugar	Product Used	25	653	26.1	12.3	33.3 [21.9,44.6]
	Product Not Used	3,759	556,526	148.1	25.6	43.4 [42.3,44.5]
Frames of Honey	Product Used	978	66,589	68.1	25.9	49.6 [47.5,51.6]
	Product Not Used	2,806	490,590	174.8	33.1	41.1 [39.8,42.5]
HFCS	Product Used	188	285,961	1521.1	433.7	39.3 [35.1,43.5]
	Product Not Used	3,596	271,218	75.4	13.3	43.5 [42.4,44.7]
Honey	Product Used	475	4,720	9.9	1.0	45.3 [42.1,48.4]
	Product Not Used	3,309	552,459	167.0	29.1	43.0 [41.8,44.2]
Sugar Syrup	Product Used	2,984	341,345	114.4	29.6	44.3 [43.1,45.6]
	Product Not Used	800	215,834	269.8	47.5	39.5 [37.2,41.9]

## Comments About This Data

### Relevant Links, References, and Citations

Funded By:



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

National Institute  
of Food  
and Agriculture

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# Carbohydrate Feed Use By Region

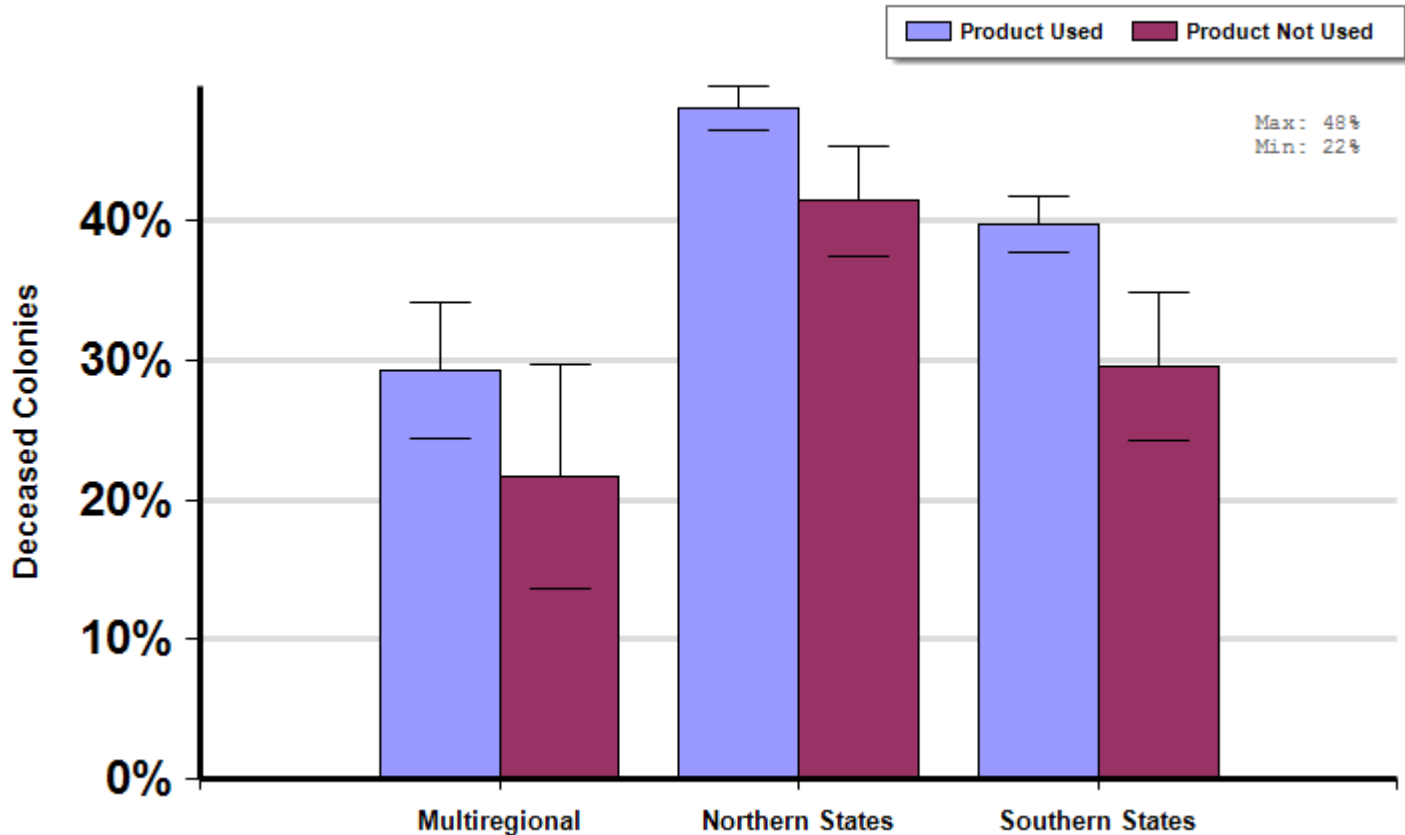
Management Survey 2013

## Winter

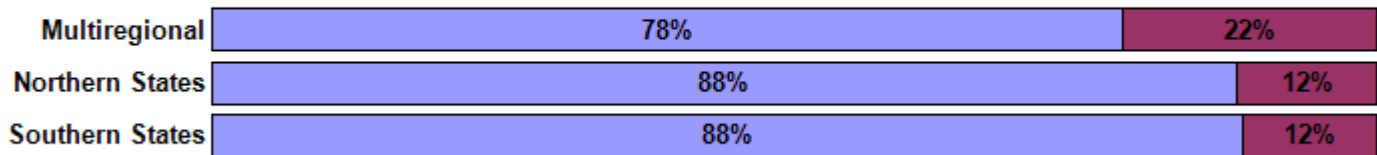
Report ID: 167-2013

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 and March by region of operation.

**Some Significant Differences (within regions)**



## Respondent Ratio



## Interpretation

There are some significant differences between groups in the Northern and Southern States. Beekeepers in the North and South who fed some form of carbohydrate feed lost fewer colonies than those beekeepers in the North and South who applied no carbohydrate feed. Those in the North who fed carbohydrates reported 6.6 fewer overwintering colony deaths per 100 managed colonies (13.8% fewer losses) and those in the South who fed carbohydrates reported 10.2 fewer overwintering colony deaths per 100 managed colonies (25.7% fewer losses) than those who did not report feeding their colonies with carbohydrates. There was no statistical difference for those beekeepers who were in several regions.

## Survey Question

Which, if any of the following, did you apply to a majority of your colonies between April 1, 2012 and March, 2013?

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

		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, Upper] CI
Multiregional	Product Used	100	327,370	3273.7	828.2	29.3 [24.3,34.2]
	Product Not Used	28	102,054	3644.8	980.4	21.7 [13.7,29.7]
Northern States	Product Used	2,045	38,020	18.6	4.1	48.0 [46.5,49.6]
	Product Not Used	283	9,487	33.5	7.1	41.4 [37.5,45.3]
Southern States	Product Used	1,147	67,702	59.0	14.3	39.7 [37.7,41.7]
	Product Not Used	150	3,494	23.3	5.7	29.5 [24.3,34.8]

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