



The Bee Informed Partnership
Management Survey Results (2013-2014)
Colony Placement and
Honey Production

BeeInformed.org

Funded by:



United States
Department of
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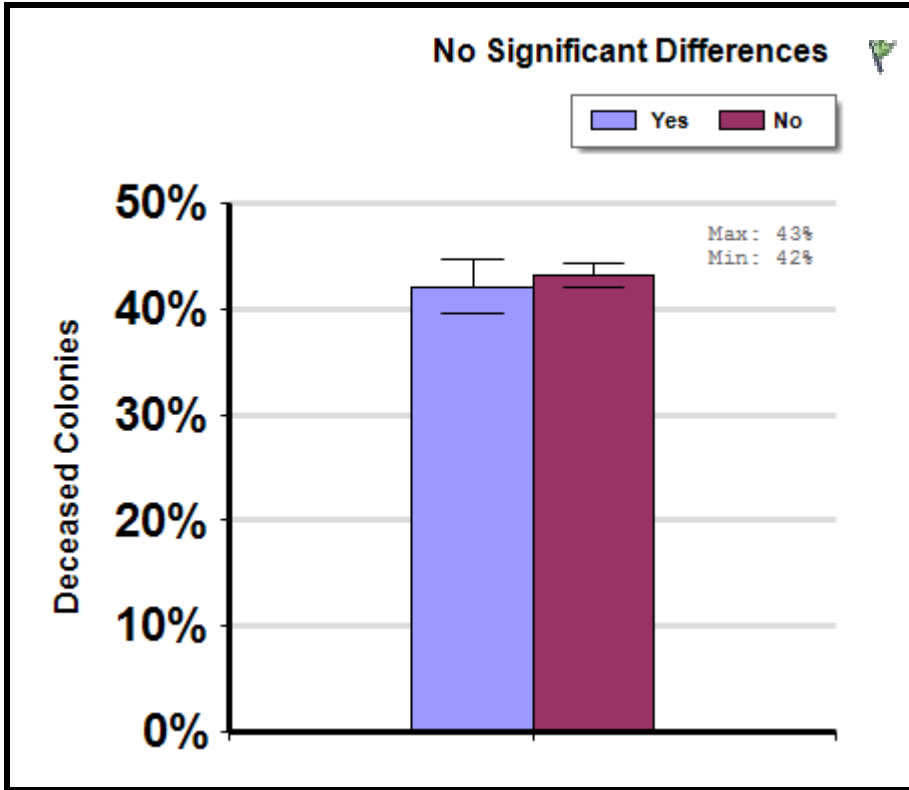
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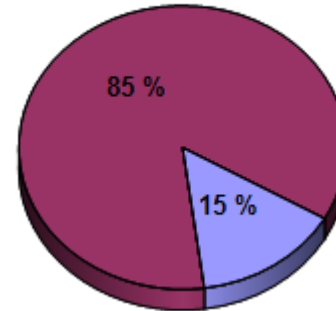
Average winter colony mortality reported by beekeepers whose colonies were or were not used for pollination between April and March.

Winter

Report ID: 98-2014



Participant Ratio



Interpretation

Beekeepers who reported renting their colonies for pollination did not report losing more or less colonies than those who did not rent their colonies for pollination. In other words, there was not a significant difference.

Survey Question

Did you derive income from your colonies by renting them out for pollination between April, 2013 and March, 2014?

		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
Renting for Pollination	Yes	771	455,850	591.2	113.6	42.2 [39.6, 44.7]
	No	4,530	59,480	13.1	2.6	43.2 [42.1, 44.3]

Relevant Links, References, and Citations

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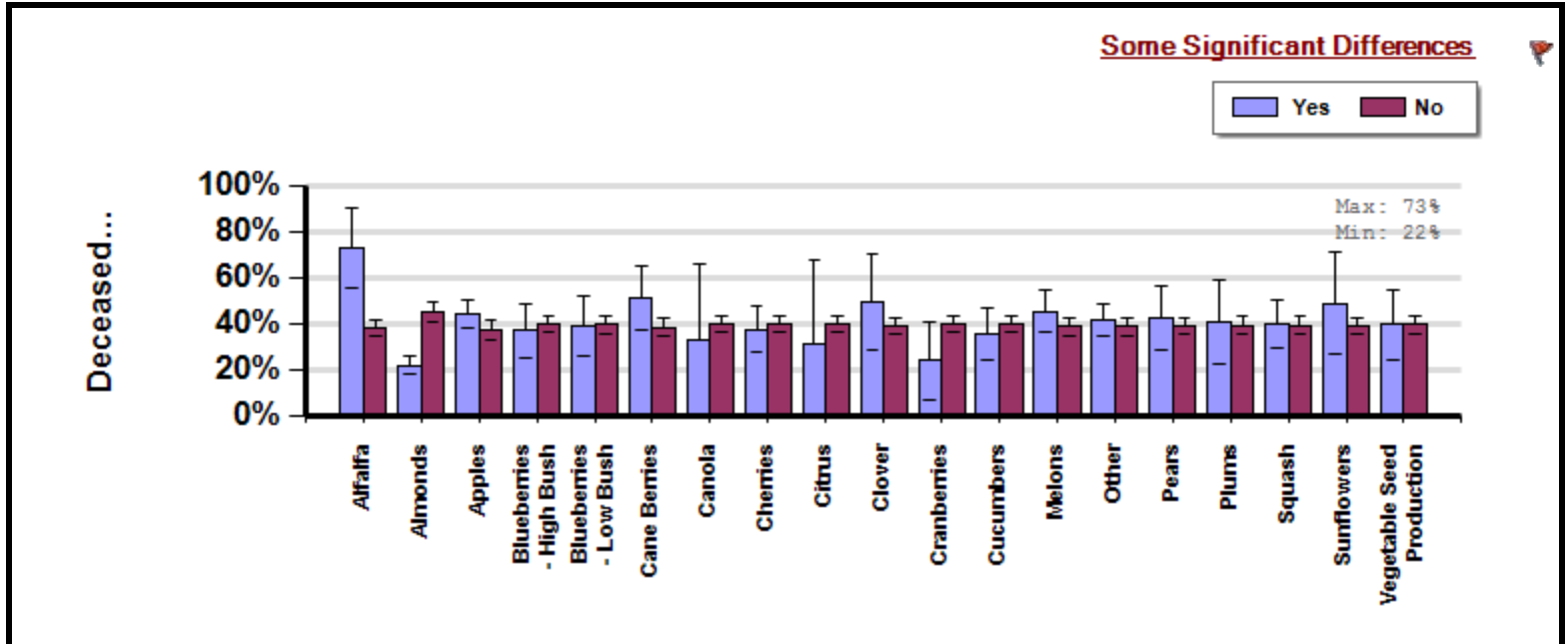


Pollination of Various Crops

Average winter colony mortality reported by beekeepers whose colonies were or were not used for pollination between April and March.

Winter

Report ID: 101-
2014



Interpretation

Beekeepers that pollinated almonds saw 23.3 fewer losses per 100 managed colonies (51.7% fewer losses) than those who did not pollinate almonds. Beekeepers that pollinated alfalfa saw 34.8 greater losses per 100 managed colonies (47.8% greater losses) than those who did not pollinate alfalfa.

Survey Question

You indicated that you derived income from renting colonies for pollination last year. Which of the following crops were you paid to pollinate over the last year?

		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
Alfalfa	Yes	14	9,426	673.3	618.2	72.8 [55.2,90.4]
	No	337	421,696	1251.3	252.1	38.0 [34.5,41.5]
Almonds	Yes	86	401,095	4663.9	896.8	21.8 [18.2,25.5]

	No	265	30,027	113.3	25.7	45.1 [40.9,49.4]
Apples	Yes	120	164,762	1373.0	621.2	44.4 [38.5,50.2]
	No	231	266,360	1153.1	181.7	36.8 [32.5,41.2]
Blueberries - High Bush	Yes	32	40,387	1262.1	561.8	36.9 [25.0,48.7]
	No	319	390,735	1224.9	261.9	39.7 [36.0,43.3]
Blueberries - Low Bush	Yes	26	42,553	1636.7	710.5	39.1 [26.3,51.9]
	No	325	388,569	1195.6	256.7	39.4 [35.8,43.1]
Cane Berries	Yes	27	15,083	558.6	286.1	51.3 [37.4,65.2]
	No	324	416,039	1284.1	262.3	38.4 [34.8,42.0]
Canola	Yes	5	32,364	6472.8	3698.7	32.5 [0.0,65.9]
	No	346	398,758	1152.5	239.7	39.5 [36.0,43.0]
Cherries	Yes	36	88,439	2456.6	775.9	37.5 [27.4,47.6]
	No	315	342,683	1087.9	255.4	39.6 [35.9,43.4]
Citrus	Yes	5	587	117.4	81.7	31.3 [0.0,67.8]
	No	346	430,535	1244.3	246.7	39.5 [36.0,43.1]
Clover	Yes	15	27,306	1820.4	754.9	49.1 [28.1,70.0]
	No	336	403,816	1201.8	251.9	39.0 [35.4,42.5]
Cranberries	Yes	8	11,652	1456.5	847.6	23.8 [7.0,40.7]
	No	343	419,470	1222.9	248.2	39.8 [36.2,43.3]
Cucumbers	Yes	31	49,946	1611.2	666.1	35.3 [23.9,46.7]
	No	320	381,176	1191.2	259.1	39.8 [36.1,43.5]
Melons	Yes	42	67,178	1599.5	513.4	45.5 [36.0,55.0]
	No	309	363,944	1177.8	267.5	38.6 [34.8,42.3]
Other	Yes	93	74,884	805.2	333.5	41.4 [34.4,48.4]
	No	258	356,238	1380.8	308.1	38.7 [34.7,42.7]
Pears	Yes	25	45,558	1822.3	977.9	42.5 [28.5,56.5]
	No	326	385,564	1182.7	251.2	39.2 [35.6,42.8]

Plums	Yes	14	47,052	3360.9	1374.8	40.5 [22.1,59.0]
	No	337	384,070	1139.7	246.1	39.4 [35.8,42.9]
Squash	Yes	40	62,152	1553.8	544.5	39.7 [29.0,50.4]
	No	311	368,970	1186.4	265.6	39.4 [35.7,43.1]
Sunflowers	Yes	13	28,275	2175.0	1343.1	49.0 [26.6,71.3]
	No	338	402,847	1191.9	247.5	39.0 [35.5,42.6]
Vegetable Seed Production	Yes	25	63,787	2551.5	843.5	39.7 [24.3,55.1]
	No	326	367,335	1126.8	253.3	39.4 [35.8,43.0]

Comments About This Data

This report compares beekeepers that pollinated individual crops to beekeepers that pollinated other crops. This means that each bar representation for "no" represents beekeepers that pollinated crops other than the the crop listed.

Relevant Links, References, and Citations

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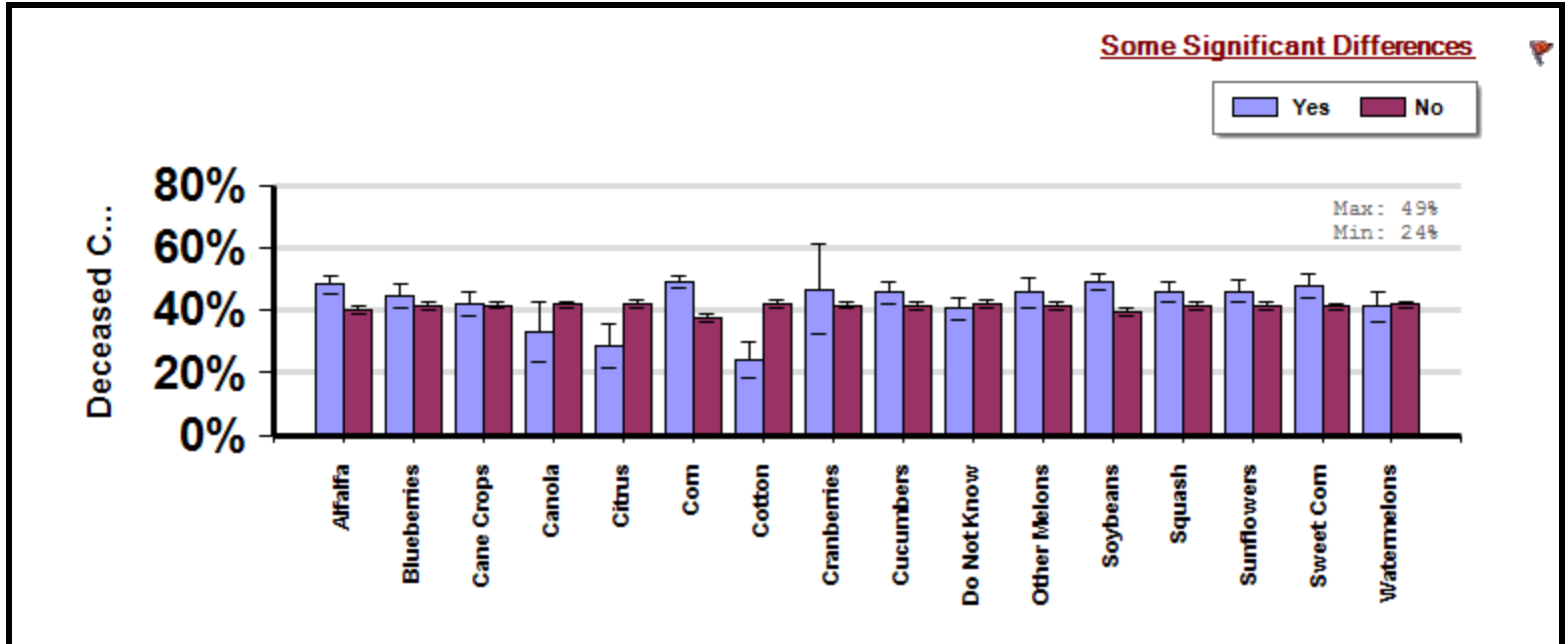
Crops Close to Colonies During Honey Flow

Management Survey 2014

Average winter colony mortality reported by beekeepers whose colonies were in proximity to various crops while they were producing honey between April and March.

Winter

Report ID: 86-2014



Interpretation

Beekeepers who reported positioning their colonies in close proximity to cotton and citrus reported losing fewer colonies than those who did not report positioning their colonies in close proximity to citrus and cotton. Beekeepers who reported positioning their colonies in close proximity to alfalfa, corn, soybeans, squash, sunflowers, and sweet corn reported losing more colonies than those who did not report positioning their colonies in close proximity to alfalfa, corn, soybeans, squash, sunflowers, and sweet corn. There are no significant differences between all other groups. In other words, beekeepers who reported positioning their colonies in close proximity to blueberries, cane crops, canola, cranberries, cucumbers, melons, and watermelons did not report losing more or less colonies than those who did not report being in close proximity to those plants.

Survey Question

Which of the following crops were the majority of your colonies in proximity to when they were producing honey?

		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

Alfalfa	Yes	674	233,176	346.0	67.7	48.3 [45.7,50.9]
	No	3,017	242,932	80.5	24.8	40.4 [39.1,41.7]
Blueberries	Yes	374	26,425	70.7	26.3	44.8 [41.1,48.4]
	No	3,317	449,683	135.6	26.3	41.5 [40.3,42.7]
Cane Crops	Yes	392	15,097	38.5	17.8	42.1 [38.4,45.7]
	No	3,299	461,011	139.7	26.6	41.8 [40.6,43.0]
Canola	Yes	36	61,831	1717.5	512.4	33.3 [23.7,43.0]
	No	3,655	414,277	113.3	23.4	41.9 [40.8,43.1]
Citrus	Yes	75	35,141	468.5	170.1	28.9 [21.8,36.0]
	No	3,616	440,967	121.9	24.0	42.1 [40.9,43.3]
Corn	Yes	1,314	134,792	102.6	23.4	49.3 [47.4,51.2]
	No	2,377	341,316	143.6	34.6	37.7 [36.3,39.2]
Cotton	Yes	88	37,998	431.8	176.9	23.9 [18.1,29.8]
	No	3,603	438,110	121.6	24.0	42.3 [41.1,43.5]
Cranberries	Yes	27	7,899	292.6	266.3	46.9 [32.6,61.2]
	No	3,664	468,209	127.8	23.9	41.8 [40.6,43.0]
Cucumbers	Yes	361	28,023	77.6	37.2	45.7 [42.1,49.4]
	No	3,330	448,085	134.6	26.1	41.4 [40.2,42.6]
Do Not Know	Yes	503	34,344	68.3	36.0	40.6 [37.3,43.9]
	No	3,188	441,764	138.6	27.0	42.0 [40.8,43.3]
Other Melons	Yes	223	28,029	125.7	55.5	45.7 [41.1,50.3]
	No	3,468	448,079	129.2	25.1	41.6 [40.4,42.8]
Soybeans	Yes	858	164,827	192.1	85.6	49.1 [46.7,51.5]
	No	2,833	311,281	109.9	17.0	39.6 [38.3,41.0]
Squash	Yes	416	32,845	79.0	33.8	46.1 [42.7,49.4]
	No	3,275	443,263	135.3	26.5	41.3 [40.1,42.5]
Sunflowers	Yes	381	79,973	209.9	62.2	46.3 [42.6,50.0]
	No	3,310	396,135	119.7	25.6	41.3 [40.1,42.6]

Sweet Corn	Yes	344	12,468	36.2	14.0	47.7 [44.0,51.5]
	No	3,347	463,640	138.5	26.2	41.2 [40.0,42.5]
Watermelons	Yes	170	25,354	149.1	71.4	41.2 [36.2,46.3]
	No	3,521	450,754	128.0	24.7	41.9 [40.7,43.1]

Comments About This Data

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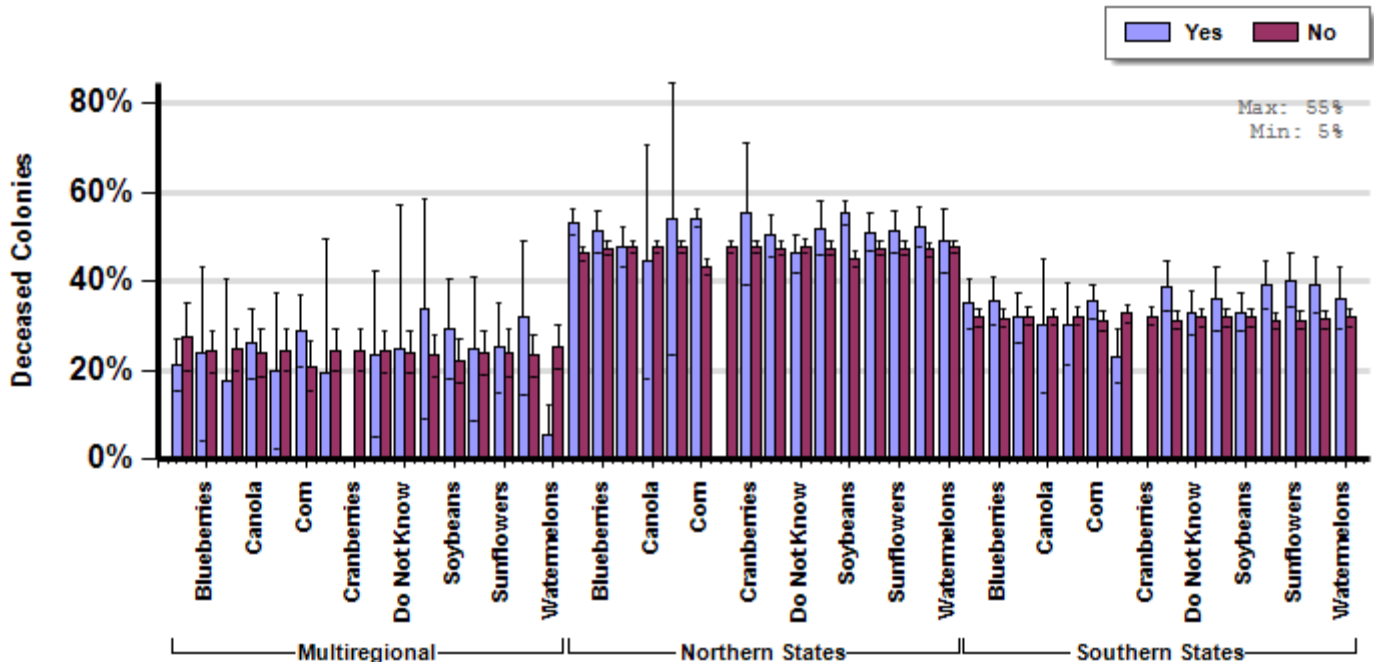
Crops Close to Colonies During Honey Flow By Region

Average winter colony mortality suffered by beekeepers whose colonies were in proximity to various crops while they were producing honey, by region of operation between April and March.

Winter

Report ID: 89-2014

Some Significant Differences (within regions)



Respondent Ratio



Interpretation

There are some significant differences between groups.

Survey Question

Which of the following crops were the majority of your colonies in proximity to when they were producing honey?

			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

Alfalfa	Yes	48	207,338	4319.5	723.3	21[15.3,27.0]
	No	42	176,679	4206.6	1660.7	28[19.9,35.1]
Blueberries	Yes	7	16,297	2328.1	972.5	24[4.1,43.2]
	No	83	367,720	4430.4	928.0	24[19.3,29.0]
Cane Crops	Yes	6	8,532	1422.0	1037.5	17[0.0,40.4]
	No	84	375,485	4470.1	915.6	25[19.8,29.4]
Canola	Yes	13	61,495	4730.4	967.8	26[18.0,34.0]
	No	77	322,522	4188.6	993.8	24[18.5,29.1]
Citrus	Yes	8	22,576	2822.0	798.4	20[2.4,37.4]
	No	82	361,441	4407.8	940.5	25[19.6,29.4]
Corn	Yes	38	103,675	2728.3	650.1	29[20.6,36.7]
	No	52	280,342	5391.2	1397.5	21[15.1,26.5]
Cotton	Yes	5	20,577	4115.4	1928.2	19[0.0,49.6]
	No	85	363,440	4275.8	905.5	24[19.6,29.2]
Cranberries	No	88	376,735	4281.1	878.1	24[19.6,29.1]
Cucumbers	Yes	6	23,626	3937.7	1711.8	24[4.8,42.3]
	No	84	360,391	4290.4	915.3	24[19.3,29.0]
Do Not Know	Yes	7	21,187	3026.7	2213.7	25[0.0,56.9]
	No	83	362,830	4371.4	916.1	24[19.5,28.7]
Other Melons	Yes	7	22,785	3255.0	1356.1	34[9.1,58.4]
	No	83	361,232	4352.2	926.7	23[18.6,28.0]
Soybeans	Yes	25	150,261	6010.4	2742.9	29[17.8,40.4]
	No	65	233,756	3596.2	561.1	22[17.3,27.1]
Squash	Yes	8	23,780	2972.5	1403.3	25[8.8,40.8]
	No	82	360,237	4393.1	934.8	24[19.1,29.0]
Sunflowers	Yes	18	74,690	4149.4	930.5	25[14.9,35.1]
	No	72	309,327	4296.2	1052.6	24[18.6,29.2]
Sweet Corn	Yes	9	7,487	831.9	461.9	32[14.6,49.2]

		No	81	376,530	4648.5	945.8	23[18.4,28.1]
	Watermelons	Yes	5	17,044	3408.8	1901.4	5[0.0,12.3]
		No	85	366,973	4317.3	905.4	25[20.4,30.0]
Northern States	Alfalfa	Yes	525	10,261	19.5	3.2	53[50.4,56.3]
		No	1,877	26,678	14.2	2.5	46[44.5,47.8]
	Blueberries	Yes	228	7,156	31.4	18.7	51[46.4,55.9]
		No	2,174	29,783	13.7	1.2	47[45.8,48.9]
	Cane Crops	Yes	259	3,271	12.6	3.3	48[43.1,52.4]
		No	2,143	33,668	15.7	2.3	48[46.2,49.3]
	Canola	Yes	12	186	15.5	4.5	44[17.9,70.8]
		No	2,390	36,753	15.4	2.1	48[46.3,49.2]
	Citrus	Yes	9	67	7.4	3.5	54[23.3,84.8]
		No	2,393	36,872	15.4	2.1	48[46.2,49.2]
	Corn	Yes	988	16,888	17.1	2.2	54[52.0,56.4]
		No	1,414	20,051	14.2	3.2	43[41.2,45.1]
	Cotton	No	2,399	36,921	15.4	2.1	48[46.2,49.2]
	Cranberries	Yes	21	600	28.6	22.6	55[39.3,71.2]
		No	2,381	36,339	15.3	2.1	48[46.2,49.1]
	Cucumbers	Yes	224	2,881	12.9	3.8	50[45.7,55.0]
		No	2,178	34,058	15.6	2.3	47[45.9,49.0]
	Do Not Know	Yes	296	1,912	6.5	0.7	46[42.0,50.6]
		No	2,106	35,027	16.6	2.4	48[46.4,49.5]
	Other Melons	Yes	136	2,285	16.8	6.1	52[46.1,57.9]
		No	2,266	34,654	15.3	2.2	47[45.9,49.0]
	Soybeans	Yes	627	10,366	16.5	2.2	55[52.5,57.9]
		No	1,775	26,573	15.0	2.7	45[43.4,46.8]
	Squash	Yes	257	7,646	29.8	16.6	51[46.7,55.3]
No		2,145	29,293	13.7	1.2	47[45.8,48.9]	

	Sunflowers	Yes	241	2,883	12.0	3.4	51[46.4,55.9]
		No	2,161	34,056	15.8	2.3	47[45.8,48.9]
	Sweet Corn	Yes	235	3,954	16.8	5.6	52[47.7,56.9]
		No	2,167	32,985	15.2	2.2	47[45.7,48.8]
	Watermelons	Yes	83	1,117	13.5	3.3	49[41.8,56.1]
		No	2,319	35,822	15.4	2.2	48[46.2,49.2]
Southern States	Alfalfa	Yes	101	15,577	154.2	89.2	35[29.3,40.6]
		No	1,055	32,788	31.1	8.9	32[29.8,33.8]
	Blueberries	Yes	139	2,972	21.4	11.5	35[30.0,40.8]
		No	1,017	45,393	44.6	12.7	32[29.6,33.6]
	Cane Crops	Yes	126	3,204	25.4	15.4	32[26.2,37.4]
		No	1,030	45,161	43.8	12.5	32[30.1,34.1]
	Canola	Yes	11	150	13.6	3.3	30[15.0,44.8]
		No	1,145	48,215	42.1	11.4	32[30.2,34.0]
	Citrus	Yes	43	12,172	283.1	202.6	30[21.1,39.6]
		No	1,113	36,193	32.5	8.6	32[30.2,34.1]
	Corn	Yes	286	14,206	49.7	31.2	35[31.7,39.1]
		No	870	34,159	39.3	10.9	31[28.8,33.1]
	Cotton	Yes	80	17,403	217.5	121.5	23[17.0,29.2]
		No	1,076	30,962	28.8	8.0	33[30.8,34.7]
	Cranberries	No	1,152	48,348	42.0	11.3	32[30.2,34.0]
	Cucumbers	Yes	131	1,516	11.6	1.8	39[33.2,44.5]
		No	1,025	46,849	45.7	12.7	31[29.2,33.2]
	Do Not Know	Yes	198	11,233	56.7	39.0	33[27.9,38.0]
		No	958	37,132	38.8	10.9	32[29.9,33.9]
	Other Melons	Yes	80	2,959	37.0	24.2	36[28.9,43.3]
No		1,076	45,406	42.2	12.0	32[29.8,33.7]	
Soybeans	Yes	206	4,200	20.4	4.9	33[28.6,37.4]	

	No	950	44,165	46.5	13.7	32[29.8,33.9]
Squash	Yes	150	1,414	9.4	1.3	39[33.6,44.4]
	No	1,006	46,951	46.7	12.9	31[29.0,33.0]
Sunflowers	Yes	121	2,310	19.1	11.3	40[34.0,46.3]
	No	1,035	46,055	44.5	12.5	31[29.2,33.1]
Sweet Corn	Yes	98	1,004	10.2	1.5	39[32.7,45.5]
	No	1,058	47,361	44.8	12.3	31[29.5,33.4]
Watermelons	Yes	81	7,191	88.8	54.1	36[29.1,43.2]
	No	1,075	41,174	38.3	11.4	32[29.8,33.7]

Comments About This Data

Relevant Links, References, and Citations



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Fall (Oct-Dec)	Above Average	230	22,350	97.2	41.6	34.5	30.1	38.9
	Average	594	45,503	76.6	32.4	40.9	37.9	43.8
	Below Average	657	59,966	91.3	24.8	48.2	45.5	50.8
	Did Not Produce Honey In This Season	1,803	245,992	136.4	25.3	40.3	38.7	42.0
Spring (April-June)	Above Average	346	65,291	188.7	50.7	36.2	32.8	39.5
	Average	771	56,710	73.6	27.9	36.5	34.0	39.0
	Below Average	611	76,401	125.0	32.5	38.9	36.2	41.5
	Did Not Produce Honey In This Season	1,671	208,594	124.8	25.9	45.3	43.5	47.1
Summer (July-Sept)	Above Average	463	67,801	146.4	56.4	42.1	38.7	45.5
	Average	1,184	122,407	103.4	25.4	40.8	38.7	42.9
	Below Average	1,070	279,644	261.3	73.0	44.3	42.2	46.3
	Did Not Produce Honey In This Season	721	16,254	22.5	11.0	39.0	36.3	41.6
Winter (Jan-March)	Above Average	36	4,600	127.8	116.4	42.1	29.7	54.4
	Average	150	30,580	203.9	120.9	39.6	33.8	45.3
	Below Average	188	11,290	60.1	29.3	46.3	41.3	51.3
	Did Not Produce Honey In This Season	2,624	297,432	113.4	18.0	41.0	39.6	42.3

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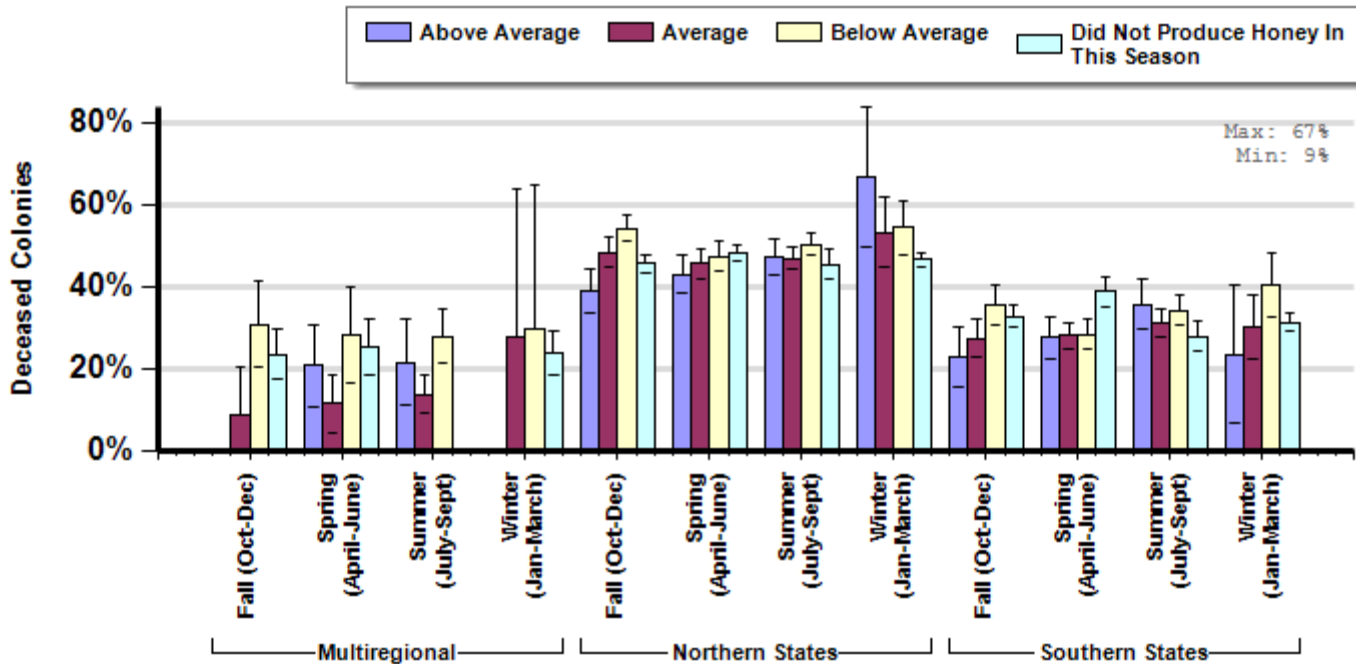
Honey Production by Region

Winter

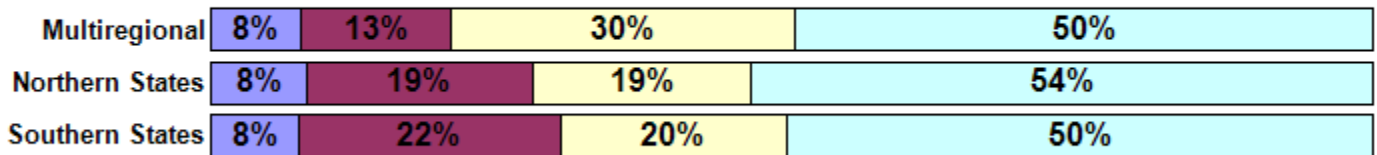
Average winter colony mortality suffered by beekeepers in comparison to amount of honey produced in April and March.

Report ID: 95-2014

Some Significant Differences (within regions)



Respondent Ratio



Interpretation

Northern beekeepers who reported above average honey production during the winter months (Jan-March) saw 21 more overwintering colony deaths per 100 managed colonies than northern beekeepers who did not produce honey during the winter season. In other words, northern beekeepers who reported above average honey production during winter lost 31.3% more colonies than those who did not produce honey. Northern beekeepers who reported below average honey production during the fall months (Oct-Dec) saw 8 more overwintering colony deaths per 100 managed colonies than northern beekeepers who did not produce honey during the fall season. In other words, northern beekeepers who reported below average honey production during fall lost 14.8% more colonies than those who did not produce honey. Southern beekeepers who reported below average honey production during the spring months (April-June) saw 11 less overwintering colony deaths per 100 managed colonies than southern beekeepers who did not produce honey during the spring season. In other words, southern beekeepers who reported below average honey production during spring lost 28.2% less colonies than those who did not produce honey. Southern beekeepers who reported above average honey production during the fall months (Oct-Dec) saw 10 less overwintering colony deaths per 100 managed colonies than southern beekeepers who did not produce honey during the fall season. In other words, southern beekeepers who reported above average honey production during fall lost 30.3% less colonies than those who did not produce honey.

Survey Question

In your opinion would you say that the amount of honey you produced in the following seasons was above average, average, or below average?

- Did not produce honey this season
- Below Average
- Average
- Above Average

			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
Northern States	Fall (Oct-Dec)	Above Average	172	2,007	11.7	1.8	39 [33.5, 44.2]
		Average	401	4,935	12.3	3.1	48 [44.5, 51.8]
		Below Average	459	9,076	19.8	3.6	54 [51.0, 57.3]
		Did Not Produce Honey In This Season	1,115	17,475	15.7	4.0	46 [43.4, 47.8]
	Spring (April-June)	Above Average	206	4,722	22.9	5.5	43 [38.6, 47.4]
		Average	407	5,009	12.3	1.2	46 [42.0, 49.1]
		Below Average	341	7,025	20.6	3.7	47 [43.6, 50.8]
		Did Not Produce Honey In This Season	1,237	18,763	15.2	3.8	48 [46.1, 50.3]
	Summer (July-Sept)	Above Average	299	3,973	13.3	2.0	47 [43.0, 51.5]
		Average	771	13,829	17.9	5.7	47 [44.2, 49.5]
		Below Average	697	14,801	21.2	3.3	50 [47.8, 52.8]
		Did Not Produce Honey In This Season	460	3,242	7.0	0.6	45 [42.0, 48.9]
	Winter (Jan-March)	Above Average	17	235	13.8	4.6	67 [49.4, 83.9]
		Average	68	475	7.0	1.2	53 [44.6, 61.8]

		Below Average	101	1,270	12.6	1.6	54[47.7,60.8]
		Did Not Produce Honey In This Season	1,722	27,181	15.8	2.8	46[44.7,48.2]
Southern States	Fall (Oct-Dec)	Above Average	45	630	14.0	2.7	23[15.6,30.1]
		Average	166	12,659	76.3	47.7	27[22.7,32.1]
		Below Average	172	5,746	33.4	12.8	36[30.7,40.4]
		Did Not Produce Honey In This Season	627	23,998	38.3	15.7	33[30.2,35.3]
	Spring (April-June)	Above Average	119	10,560	88.7	64.3	28[22.3,32.7]
		Average	329	7,868	23.9	8.3	28[24.8,31.3]
		Below Average	247	21,654	87.7	39.8	28[24.6,32.1]
		Did Not Produce Honey In This Season	379	6,198	16.4	4.7	39[35.2,42.5]
	Summer (July-Sept)	Above Average	137	3,659	26.7	12.2	36[29.6,41.7]
		Average	369	11,350	30.8	12.5	31[27.8,34.4]
		Below Average	313	18,101	57.8	28.6	34[30.6,37.8]
		Did Not Produce Honey In This Season	258	12,979	50.3	30.7	28[24.1,31.5]
	Winter (Jan-March)	Above Average	12	105	8.8	2.5	24[6.9,40.2]
		Average	62	1,080	17.4	5.9	30[22.2,37.9]
		Below Average	75	1,011	13.5	5.6	40[32.5,48.4]
		Did Not Produce Honey In This Season	819	41,736	51.0	15.7	31[29.1,33.5]
Multiregional	Fall (Oct-	Average	6	27,245	4540.8	2473.5	9[0.0,20.2]

	Dec)	Below Average	22	45,133	2051.5	605.8	31[20.3,41.4]
		Did Not Produce Honey In This Season	55	204,471	3717.7	646.1	24[17.3,29.7]
	Spring (April-June)	Above Average	13	44,060	3389.2	767.1	21[10.7,30.6]
		Average	12	43,113	3592.8	1515.3	11[4.6,18.3]
		Below Average	19	47,687	2509.8	732.9	28[16.7,40.1]
		Did Not Produce Honey In This Season	48	183,595	3824.9	721.4	25[18.4,32.3]
	Summer (July-Sept)	Above Average	14	54,061	3861.5	1592.1	22[11.0,32.2]
		Average	22	96,637	4392.6	987.8	14[9.0,18.6]
		Below Average	57	246,729	4328.6	1252.9	28[21.3,34.4]
	Winter (Jan-March)	Average	5	28,432	5686.4	2925.8	28[0.0,63.9]
		Below Average	5	8,910	1782.0	860.0	30[0.0,64.6]
		Did Not Produce Honey In This Season	70	222,531	3179.0	526.1	24[18.4,29.1]

Comments About This Data

Relevant Links, References, and Citations



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