



The Bee Informed Partnership Management Survey Results (2013-2014) Queen Management

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Funded by:



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

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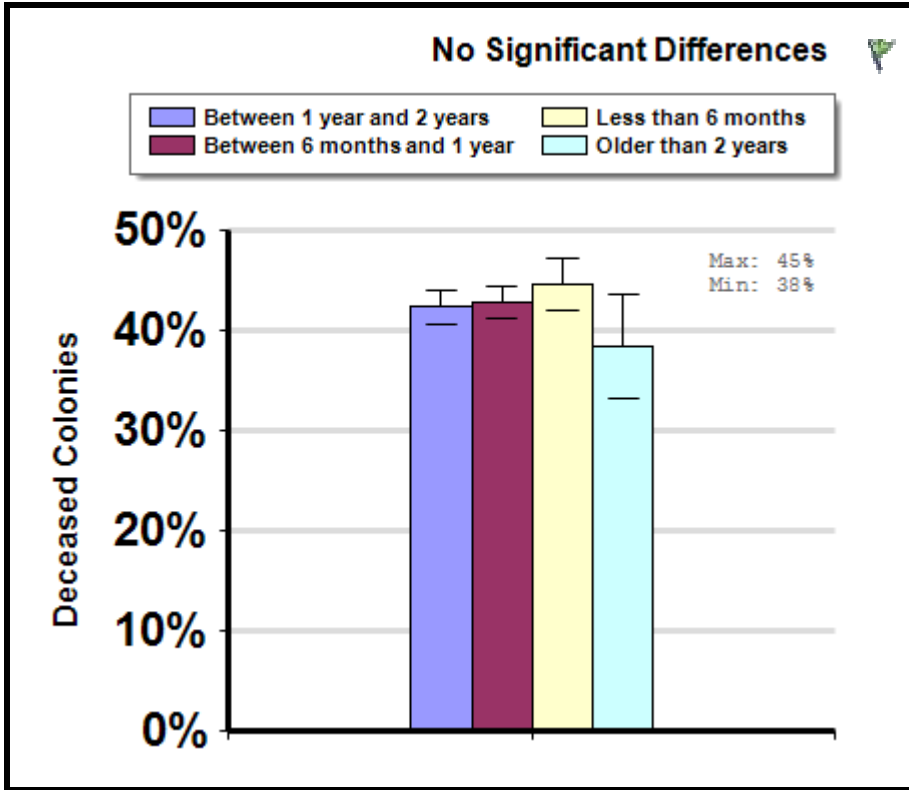


Average Queen Age

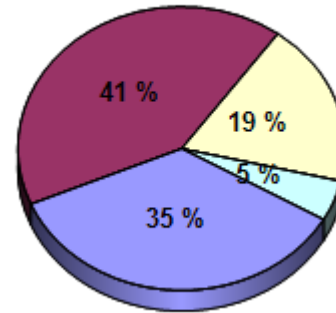
Average winter colony mortality suffered by beekeepers grouped by the average age of queens in their colonies as of April and March.

Winter

Report ID: 212-2014



Participant Ratio



Interpretation

There are no significant differences between the groups.

Survey Question

On average how old were the queens that headed a majority of your colonies on April, 2013?

- Less than 6 months
- Between 6 months and 1 year
- Between 1 and 2 years
- Older than 2 years
- Don't know

		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
	Between 1 year and 2 years	1,674	74,659	44.6	16.2	42.4 [40.7, 44.1]
	Between 6 months and 1 year	1,965	351,596	178.9	41.6	42.9 [41.3, 44.5]

Less than 6 months	888	76,241	85.9	26.8	44.6 [42.0, 47.2]
Older than 2 years	220	6,501	29.6	19.6	38.4 [33.2, 43.7]

Comments About This Data

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Average Queen Age By Region

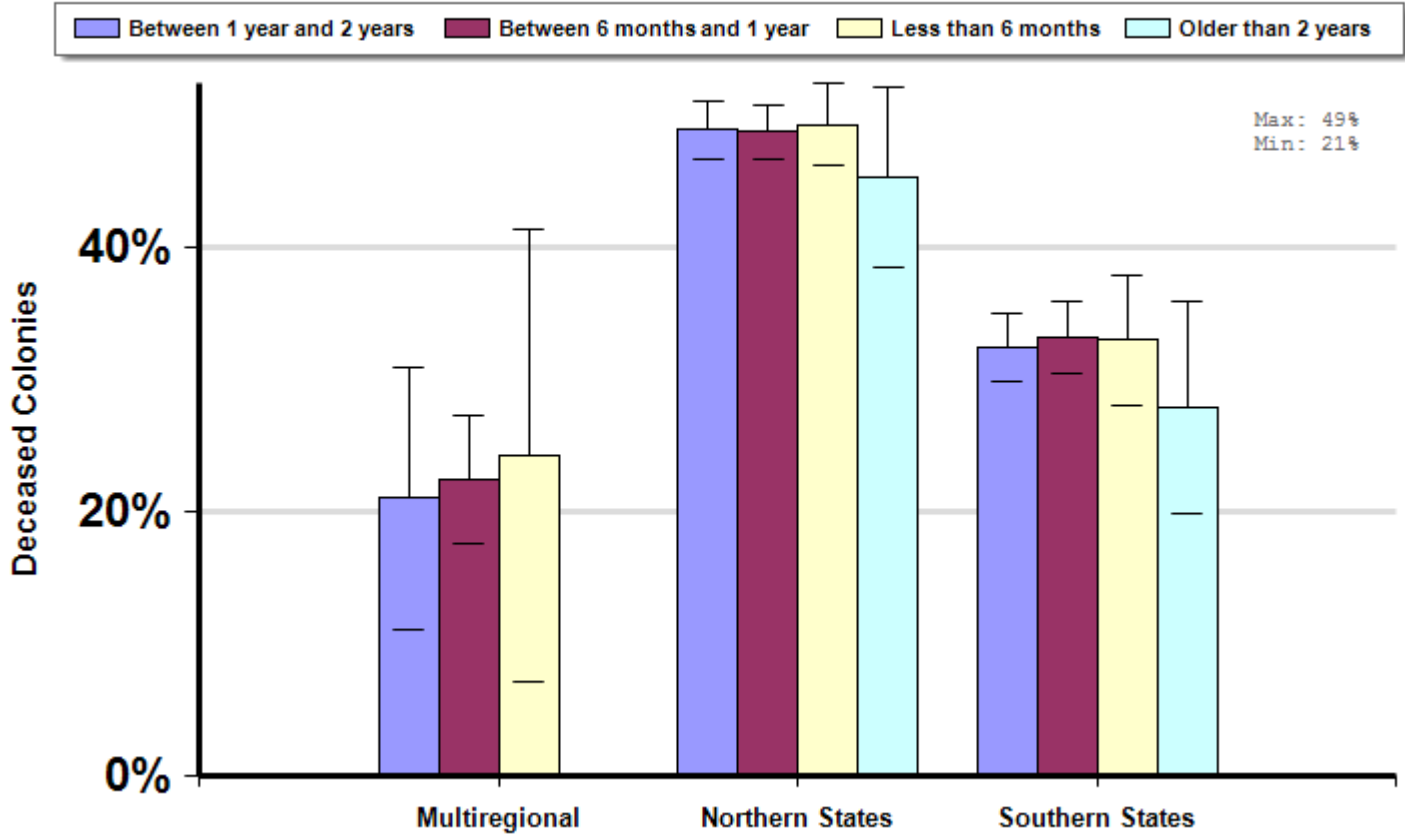
Management Survey 2014

Average winter colony mortality suffered by beekeepers grouped by the average age of queens in their colonies as of April and March.

Winter

Report ID: 215-2014

No Significant Differences (within regions)



Respondent Ratio



Interpretation

There are no significant differences between the groups.

Survey Question

On average how old were the queens that headed a majority of your colonies on April,2013?

- Less than 6 months
- Between 6 months and 1 year
- Between 1 and 2 years
- Older than 2 years
- Don't know

		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	Between 1 year and 2 years	21	53,022	2524.9	1192.9	21.0 [11.1,31.0]
	Between 6 months and 1 year	57	296,605	5203.6	1252.8	22.4 [17.5,27.4]
	Less than 6 months	13	40,736	3133.5	1085.7	24.2 [7.1,41.4]
Northern States	Between 1 year and 2 years	1,040	11,661	11.2	1.0	49.0 [46.8,51.1]
	Between 6 months and 1 year	1,273	19,569	15.4	3.6	48.8 [46.7,50.9]
	Less than 6 months	645	6,877	10.7	2.5	49.3 [46.2,52.4]
	Older than 2 years	137	1,827	13.3	7.4	45.3 [38.5,52.2]
Southern States	Between 1 year and 2 years	599	9,745	16.3	2.7	32.4 [29.8,35.0]
	Between 6 months and 1 year	621	34,963	56.3	20.5	33.2 [30.5,35.9]
	Less than 6 months	221	22,656	102.5	69.6	33.1 [28.1,38.0]
	Older than 2 years	79	399	5.1	0.9	28.0 [19.9,36.0]

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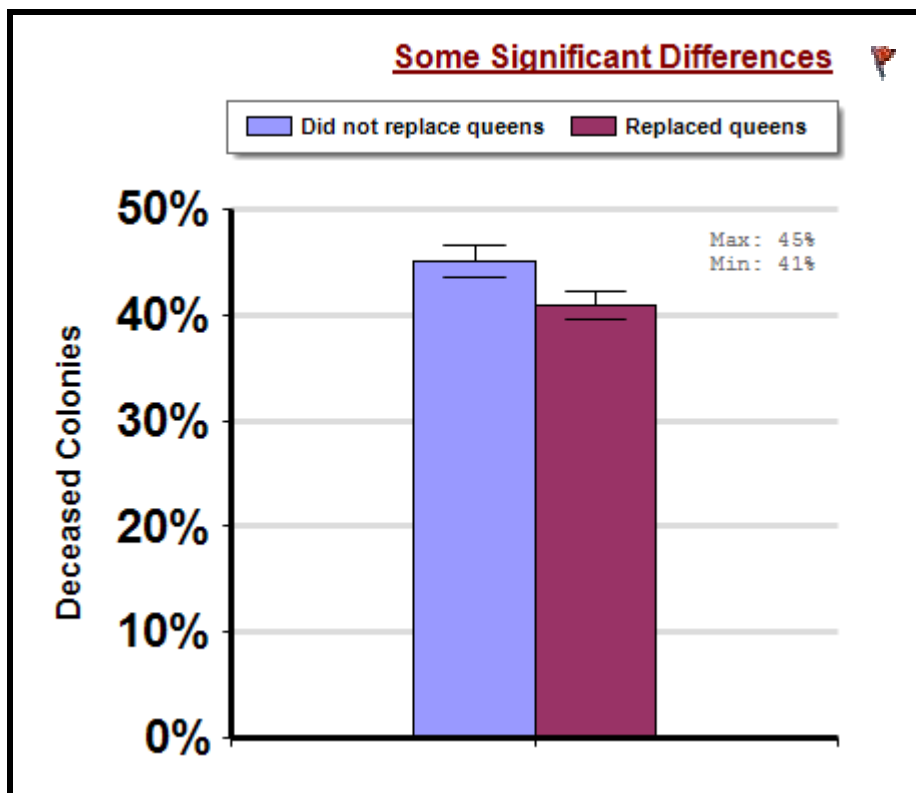


Queen Replacement

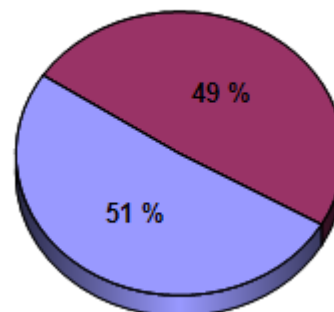
Average winter colony mortality suffered by beekeepers who indicated they did or did not replace any queens in their colonies between April and March.

Winter

Report ID: 218-2014



Participant Ratio



Interpretation

Beekeepers who replaced queens reported 4.2 fewer overwintering colony deaths per 100 managed colonies (9.3% fewer losses) than those who did not replace queens.

Survey Question

Did you replace the queens in any of your colonies between April 1,2013 and March,2013?

		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
	Did not replace queens	2,726	28,076	10.3	2.4	45.1 [43.6, 46.6]
	Replaced queens	2,622	489,285	186.6	34.0	40.9 [39.5, 42.2]

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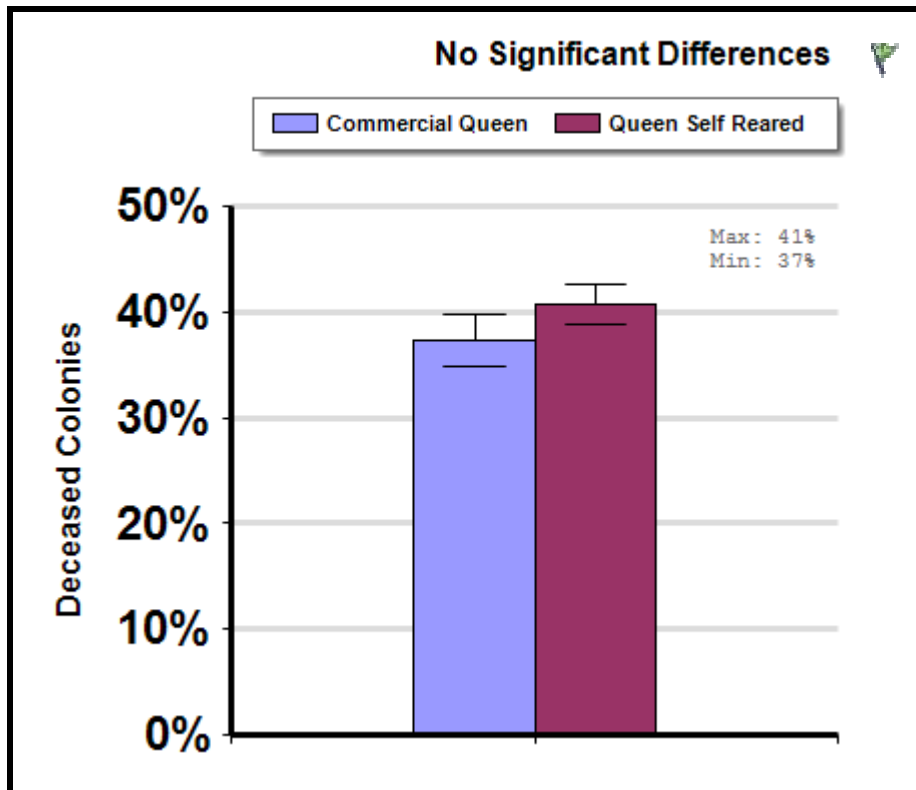


Queen Replacement By Queen Source Origin

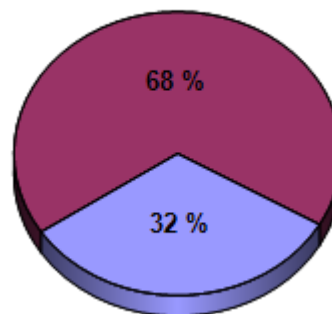
Average winter colony mortality suffered by beekeepers who reported replacing queens in their colonies between April and March by the source of the queens used for replacement.

Winter

Report ID: 230-2014



Participant Ratio



Interpretation

Beekeepers who reported using self-reared queens did not report losing more or less colonies than those than those who reported using commercial queens.

Survey Question

If you introduced mated or virgin queens and/or queen cells, where did you get the majority of these queens?

- Not applicable
- Do not know
- Queen self reared
- Commercial queen

		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
	Commercial Queen	580	245,923	424.0	133.5	37.4 [34.9, 39.9]
	Queen Self Reared	1,213	251,192	207.1	37.0	40.7 [38.8, 42.6]

Comments About This Data

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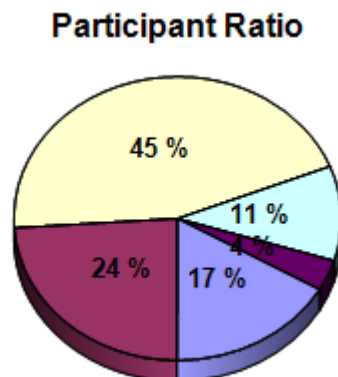
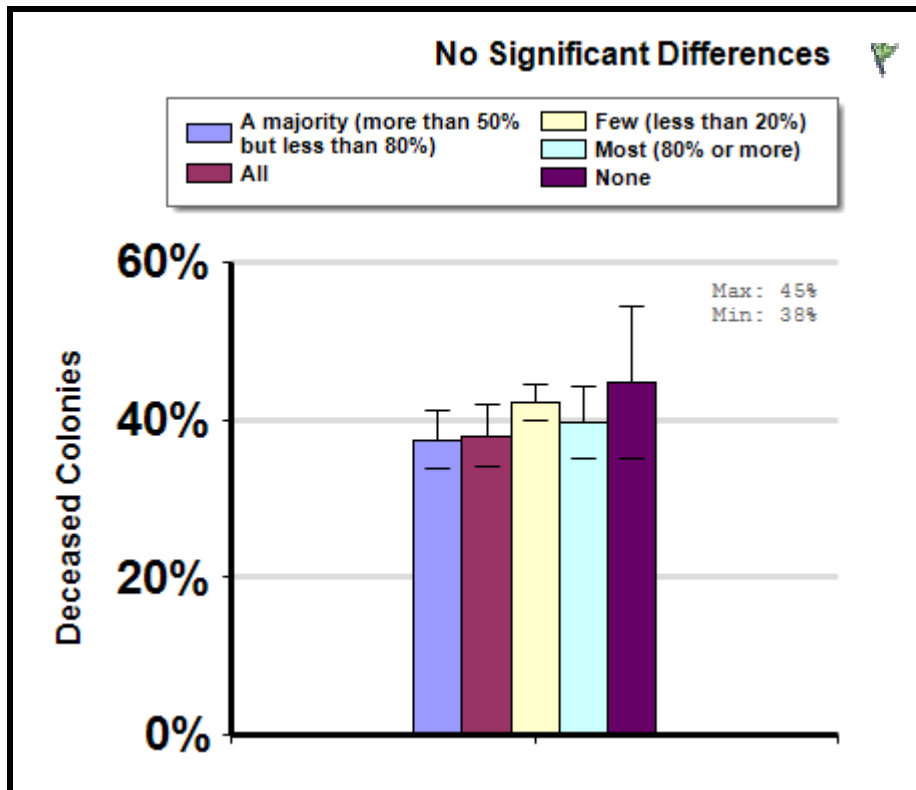
Queen Replacement By Proportion of Operation Replaced

Management Survey 2014

Average winter colony mortality suffered by beekeepers who reported replacing queens in their colonies between April and March by the proportion of colonies in their operation whose queen they replaced.

Winter

Report ID: 224-2014



Interpretation

There are no significant differences between the groups.

Survey Question

You indicated that you replaced queens in at least some of your colonies. In what percentage of the colonies in your operation did you replace queens over the last year?

- None
- All
- Most (80% or more)
- A majority (more than 50% but less than 80%)
- A minority (less than 50% but more than 20%)
- Few (less than 20%)

		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
	A majority (more than 50% but less than 80%)	295	69,607	236.0	65.3	37.5 [33.8, 41.2]

All	422	92,482	219.2	65.7	38.0 [34.1, 41.9]
Few (less than 20%)	796	30,362	38.1	11.5	42.2 [39.9, 44.5]
Most (80% or more)	191	172,032	900.7	390.0	39.7 [35.2, 44.2]
None	62	1,102	17.8	8.4	44.8 [35.0, 54.6]

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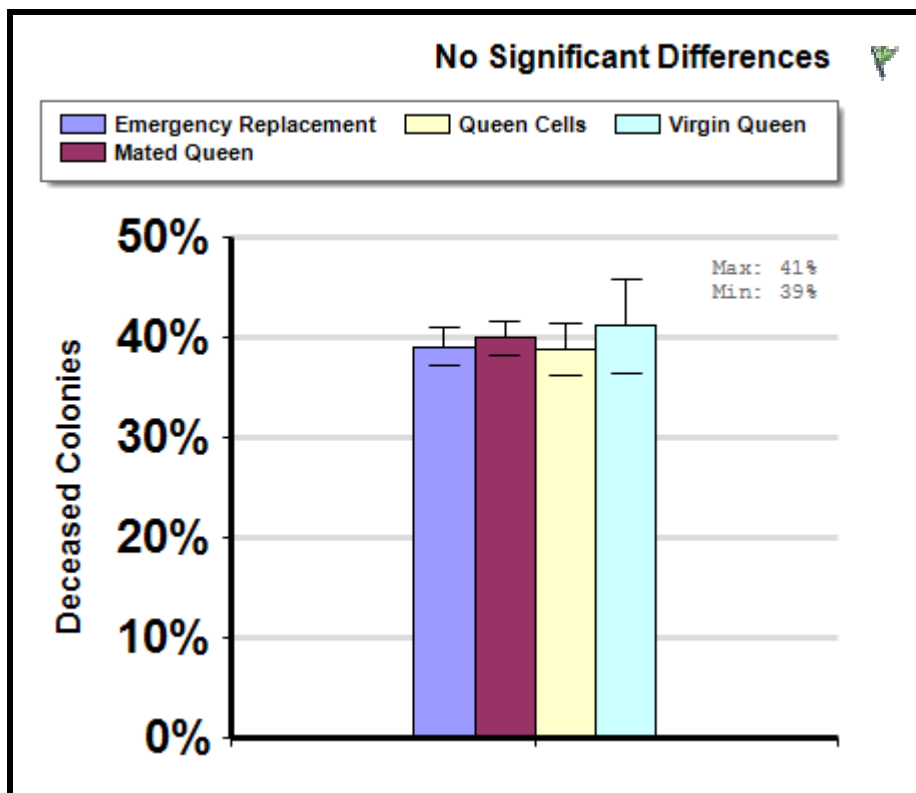
Queen Replacement By Method of Replacement

Management Survey 2014

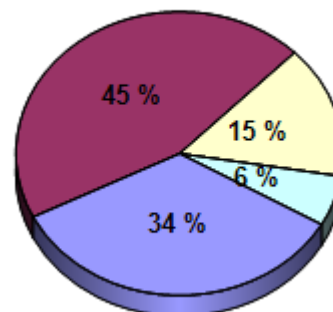
Average winter colony mortality suffered by beekeepers who reported replacing queens in their colonies between April and March by the type of queen replacement method used.

Winter

Report ID: 227-2014



Participant Ratio



Interpretation

There are no significant differences between the groups.

Survey Question

How did you re-queen the colonies that you re-queened last year?

- Introduced mated queens
- Introduced virgin queens
- Introduced queen cells
- Permitted colony or split to rear a new replacement queen on its own
- Don't know
- 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, Upper] CI
	Emergency Replacement	1,182	34,235	29.0	7.5	39.1 [37.2, 41.1]
	Mated Queen	1,544	357,429	231.5	35.4	40.0 [38.3, 41.6]
	Queen Cells	523	281,900	539.0	153.2	38.9 [36.3, 41.4]

Virgin
Queen

199

17,877

89.8

42.7

41.2 [36.5, 45.9]

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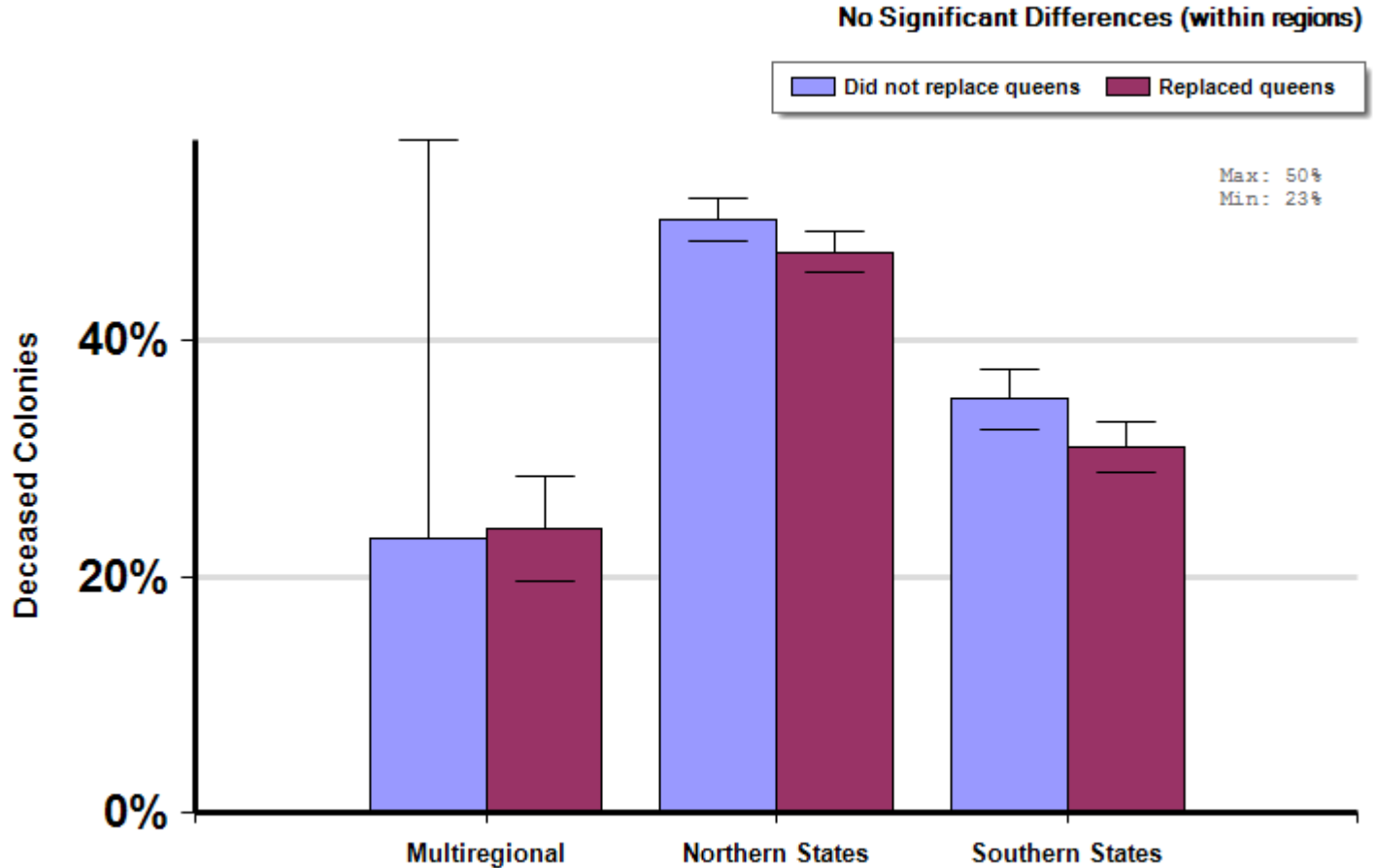


Queen Replacement By Region

Average winter colony mortality suffered by beekeepers who indicated they did or did not replace any queens in their colonies between April and March by region of operation.

Winter

Report ID: 221-2014



Respondent Ratio



Interpretation

There are no significant differences between the groups.

Survey Question

Did you replace the queens in any of your colonies between April 1,2013 and April 1,2014?

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

		Valid Responses				
				Mean	Standard Error	Mean(%) [Lower, Upper] CI
Multiregional	Did not replace queens	7	5,215	745.0	581.5	23.3 [0.0,56.9]
	Replaced queens	94	394,135	4192.9	825.4	24.0 [19.7,28.4]
Northern States	Did not replace queens	1,838	9,767	5.3	0.5	50.3 [48.4,52.1]
	Replaced queens	1,650	32,715	19.8	3.0	47.5 [45.7,49.2]
Southern States	Did not replace queens	853	12,861	15.1	5.5	35.0 [32.5,37.5]
	Replaced queens	851	55,785	65.6	22.9	31.0 [28.9,33.0]

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