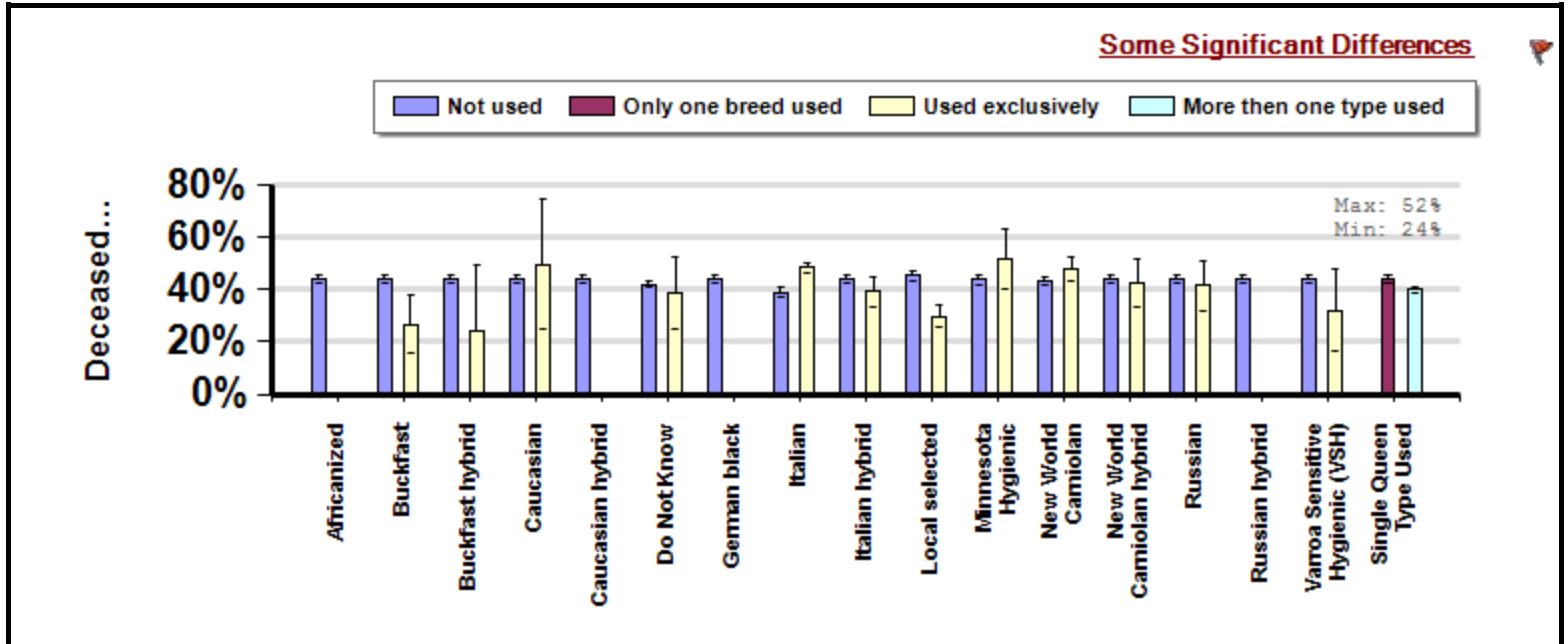




Winter

Report ID: 206-
2015

Average winter colony mortality reported by beekeepers who indicated which race of bees they kept between April and March.



Interpretation

Beekeepers who kept Buckfast bees reported 17.2 fewer overwintering colony deaths out of 100 managed colonies (39.1% fewer losses) than beekeepers who did not keep Buckfast bees. Beekeepers who used Italian bees exclusively reported 9.4 more overwintering colony deaths out of 100 managed colonies (19.4% greater losses) than those who did not use Italian bees. Beekeepers who kept a locally selected race of bees reported 15.4 fewer overwintering colony deaths per 100 managed colonies (34.1% fewer losses) than beekeepers who did not keep a locally selected race of bees. Also, beekeepers who used more than one breed of queen in their operation saw 4 fewer losses out of 100 managed colonies (9.1% fewer losses) than beekeepers who only used one breed of queen.

Survey Question

What type or race of bees do you use in your operation?

- New World Carniolan
- New World Carniolan hybrid
- Caucasian
- Caucasian hybrid
- Italian
- Italian hybrid
- Buckfast
- Buckfast hybrid
- Russian
- Russian hybrid
- Varroa Sensitive Hygienic (VSH)
- Minnesota Hygienic
- German black
- Local selected
- Africanized
- 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
Africanized	Not used	2,330	194,969	83.7	29.6	43.9 [42.4,45.5]
Buckfast	Not used	2,312	194,667	84.2	29.9	44.0 [42.5,45.6]
	Used exclusively	21	336	16.0	6.8	26.8 [15.5,38.1]
Buckfast hybrid	Not used	2,321	194,966	84.0	29.8	44.0 [42.4,45.5]
	Used exclusively	12	37	3.1	0.8	24.0 [0.0,49.1]
Caucasian	Not used	2,318	194,957	84.1	29.8	43.8 [42.3,45.4]
	Used exclusively	15	46	3.1	0.4	49.8 [25.2,74.4]
Caucasian hybrid	Not used	2,329	194,973	83.7	29.7	43.9 [42.4,45.4]
Do Not Know	Not used	4,462	357,931	80.2	17.4	42.0 [40.9,43.0]
	Used exclusively	25	156	6.2	1.8	38.7 [25.1,52.4]
German black	Not used	2,331	195,000	83.7	29.6	43.9 [42.3,45.4]
Italian	Not used	1,123	89,376	79.6	23.6	39.0 [36.8,41.1]
	Used exclusively	1,210	105,627	87.3	52.7	48.4 [46.3,50.6]
Italian hybrid	Not used	2,156	185,639	86.1	31.9	44.3 [42.7,45.9]
	Used exclusively	177	9,364	52.9	33.4	39.3 [33.7,44.9]
Local selected	Not used	2,128	192,620	90.5	32.5	45.2 [43.6,46.9]
	Used exclusively	205	2,383	11.6	2.5	29.8 [25.5,34.1]
Minnesota Hygienic	Not used	2,287	186,568	81.6	30.1	43.7 [42.2,45.3]
	Used exclusively	46	8,435	183.4	114.7	51.7 [40.6,62.9]
New World Carniolan	Not used	2,067	188,299	91.1	33.4	43.3 [41.7,45.0]
	Used exclusively	266	6,704	25.2	10.2	48.2 [43.6,52.8]

New World Carniolan hybrid	Not used	2,265	194,274	85.8	30.5	43.9 [42.4,45.5]
	Used exclusively	68	729	10.7	3.3	42.5 [33.6,51.5]
Russian	Not used	2,269	194,386	85.7	30.4	43.9 [42.4,45.5]
	Used exclusively	64	617	9.6	3.8	41.5 [31.8,51.2]
Russian hybrid	Not used	2,333	195,003	83.6	29.6	43.9 [42.3,45.4]
Varroa Sensitive Hygienic (VSH)	Not used	2,309	193,439	83.8	29.9	44.0 [42.5,45.5]
	Used exclusively	24	1,564	65.2	56.0	32.1 [16.3,47.9]
Single Queen Type Used	Only one breed used	2,333	195,003	83.6	29.6	43.9 [42.3,45.4]
	More then one type used	2,154	163,084	75.7	16.5	39.9 [38.5,41.3]

Comments About This Data

Relevant Links, References, and Citations

Funded By:



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

This information is for educational purposes only. References to commercial products or trade names do not imply endorsement by the Bee Informed Partnership or its members. The results presented here are the summary of the population who responded. The sample may not be representative of the beekeeping population at large. These results simply highlight differences in the sample population. The results cannot be considered conclusive, causative, protective, or attest to product efficacy or lack of efficacy.