



PNW WINTER LOSS SURVEY

(for those with more than 50 hives)



The purpose of this survey is to quantify over-wintering losses in PNW region. The survey should take less than 2 minutes to complete. You must be at least 18 or older. Your answers to the questions are anonymous. Reports prepared will be released only as summaries so no individuals can be identified.

Survey is voluntary

How many years beekeeping experience? _____

1. How many living colonies/nucs did you have on 1 October 2019(LAST FALL)? _____

2. How many living colonies/nucs did you have THIS SPRING? _____

3. Did you make splits, increases, buy or sell colonies between 1 October 2019 and 1 Feb 2020?
_____None; _____Don't Know; Number of Colonies _____(please specify)

NOTE: "Increases" include successfully hived swarms and/or feral colonies.

4. How many of your colonies died between October 1, 2019 and this spring?

_____None _____Don't Know: Number of Colonies _____(please specify)

5. What percentage of loss, over this time period, would you consider acceptable? _____

6. What percentage of the colonies that died between last October and this spring were lost without dead bees in the hive or apiary? _____%

7. What percentage of your colonies that died between last October & this spring died because of queen problems? _____%

8. In your opinion, what factors were the main cause (or causes) of colony death in your operation between October 2019 and this spring? (Select all that apply – use % estimate if you have one.)

Queen failure _____

Starvation _____

Varroa mites _____

Nosema Disease _____

Small Hive Beetles _____

Poor wintering conditions _____

Pesticides _____

Weak in the fall _____

Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) _____

Don't know _____

Other _____ Please list _____

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9. In what states did you operate bee colonies last year?
 ____ California; ____ Idaho: ____ Oregon: ____ Washington: ____ Other
 Please list other states: _____
9. What percentage of your hives did you send to or move into California almond orchards for pollination? _____%
10. Summer losses: How many colonies did you lose during the 2019 spring, summer and fall?
 ____ None; ____ Don't Know; Number of Colonies _____(please specify)
11. What percentage of your annual income was derived from your beekeeping activities last year?
 I lost money _____, None _____, Don't know _____
 Less than 10% _____, Between 10 - 50% _____, Between 51-90% _____
 Over 90% _____, Prefer not to say _____
12. Over the last year, which of the following activities did you use your colonies for?
 ____ To pollinate agricultural crops; ____ To make honey to sell
 ____ To make honey for personal use; ____ For enjoyment
 ____ To make queens or package bees to sell to other beekeepers
 Other, (please specify) _____
13. What methods did you/will you use to replace colony losses? (Approximate %)
 Splits (your own hives) _____: Bought Nucs (from other beekeepers) _____:
 Bought Packages _____: Bought colonies (from other Beekeepers) _____:
 Caught Swarms _____: Other (describe) _____
14. In what zip code is your operation based (optional)? _____

Please return survey in prepaid, addressed envelope to:

Dr Ramesh Sagili, Dept. of Horticulture, OR State Univ, Corvallis, OR 97330

THANK YOU