



# 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 2020(LAST FALL)? \_\_\_\_\_

2. How many living colonies/nucs did you have THIS SPRING 2021? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Did you make splits, increases, buy or sell colonies between 1 October 2020 and 1 Feb 2021?  
\_\_\_\_\_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, 2020 and spring of 2021?

\_\_\_\_\_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 2020 and spring of 2021? (Select all that apply – use % estimate if available)

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 2020 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? \_\_\_\_\_

Please return survey in prepaid, addressed envelope to:

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

THANK YOU