



2020-21 NH Winter Beehive Survey

1. Welcome to the 2020/21 NHBA Winter Beehive Survey

Thank you for participating in our survey.

This year's survey allows you to enter information for up to 3 apiaries. We've also added some additional hive management questions to help determine if there are certain practices that help minimize winter loss.

If you have more than 3 apiary locations, please consider adding the remaining apiaries by doing a second or 3rd survey.

We'll be giving away a 1 year NHBA membership to one lucky survey participant (please leave your email address to be entered).

Also, don't forget to check off which bee clubs you are a member of to help your club win a membership participation prize.



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2. Apiary 1 Information

* 1. Please enter town & county for the apiary

* 2. How many COLONIES were ALIVE on October 1, 2020 & today ? (Enter 0 if no Colonies in apiary)

Note: NUCs are covered later in the survey

of Colonies ALIVE on 10/1/20

of Colonies ALIVE today

3. In what months were Colonies lost? (Select all that apply)

☐ NO Colonies Were Lost

☐ January

☐ October

☐ February

☐ November

☐ March

☐ December

☐ Don't Know

* 4. How many NUCs were ALIVE on Oct 1, 2020 and TODAY? (Enter 0 if no NUCs in apiary)

of NUCs ALIVE on 10/1/20

of NUCs ALIVE TODAY

5. In what months were NUCs lost? (Select all that apply)

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> NO NUCs Were Lost | <input type="checkbox"/> January |
| <input type="checkbox"/> October | <input type="checkbox"/> February |
| <input type="checkbox"/> November | <input type="checkbox"/> March |
| <input type="checkbox"/> December | <input type="checkbox"/> Don't Know |

6. Why do you think your Colonies/NUCs died? (select all that apply)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> NO Colonies or NUCs Died | <input type="checkbox"/> Robbing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Varroa Mites | <input type="checkbox"/> Weak Colony |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Starvation | <input type="checkbox"/> Lost the Queen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dysentery | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Queen Issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nosema | <input type="checkbox"/> Cold Temperatures |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bears | <input type="checkbox"/> Absconded |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Moisture | |

Other (please specify)

7. Which registered commercial varroa treatments did you use? (select all that apply)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> NO Commercial Treatments Were Used | <input type="checkbox"/> Formic Pro/Mite-Away Quick Strips (MAQS) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apiguard | <input type="checkbox"/> HopGuard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Api Life Var | <input type="checkbox"/> Oxalic Acid Vapor/Fogger |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apistan | <input type="checkbox"/> Oxalic Acid Dribble |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apivar | |

Other (please specify)

8. On average, how many times did you complete a FULL Varroa Commercial Treatment in 2020?

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> 0 times | <input type="radio"/> 2 times |
| <input type="radio"/> 1 time | <input type="radio"/> > 2 times |
| <input type="radio"/> Other (please specify) | |

9. On average how much sugar syrup did you feed a colony this fall?

- ☐ Did NOT Feed ☐ 3-4 gallons
- ☐ < 1 gallon ☐ > 4 gallons
- ☐ 1-2 gallons ☐ Fed, but don't know how much
- ☐ Other (please specify)

10. What did you feed your colonies over the winter? (select all that apply)

- ☐ Did NOT Feed in Winter ☐ Granulated Sugar
- ☐ Fondant ☐ Winter Patties
- ☐ Candy Board ☐ Sugar Bricks
- ☐ Other (please specify)

11. How many years have you been keeping bees?

- ☐ 1 year (This was my first winter!) ☐ 11-15 years
- ☐ 2-4 years ☐ > 15 years
- ☐ 5-10 years

12. Which bee clubs are you a member of (select all that apply)

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not a member of a NH bee club | <input type="checkbox"/> Monadnock | <input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Apiculture Society (EAS) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Hampshire Beekeepers Association | <input type="checkbox"/> North Country | <input type="checkbox"/> American Bee Federation (ABF) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Capital Area | <input type="checkbox"/> Pawtuckaway | <input type="checkbox"/> Vermont Beekeepers Association |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Connecticut River Valley | <input type="checkbox"/> Pemi-Baker | <input type="checkbox"/> Massachusetts Beekeepers Association |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kearsarge | <input type="checkbox"/> Seacoast | <input type="checkbox"/> Maine Beekeepers Association |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Merrimack Valley | <input type="checkbox"/> Winnepesaukee | |

Other (please specify)

* 13. May we contact you if we have questions? Please include your email address

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

email address

* 14. NHBA occasionally does projects with universities and colleges to gain further insight into the state of our honeybees.

May we include an anonymized version (no emails, club affiliation, etc) of your data in any projects we do?

☐ Yes

☐ No

15. Is there any other information you'd like to share?

* 16. Do you have time to answer a few more questions on your hive management (5-10 minutes)?

☐ Yes

☐ No



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3. Apiary Management Information

17. What kind of bees do you have (select all that apply)?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> "Northern" Bees (aka Northern mated queen) | <input type="checkbox"/> Buckfast |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Italians | <input type="checkbox"/> Caucasian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carniolans | <input type="checkbox"/> Minnesota Hygenic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Russian | <input type="checkbox"/> Saskatraz |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) | |

18. How many of your LOST colonies were :

Previously overwintered
Colonies or NUCS

2020 Package or NUC

2020 Captured Swarm

2020 Split

19. Did the colonies you lost swarm in 2020? If so When? (select all that apply)

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Did NOT Swarm | <input type="checkbox"/> August |
| <input type="checkbox"/> May | <input type="checkbox"/> September |
| <input type="checkbox"/> June | <input type="checkbox"/> October |
| <input type="checkbox"/> July | |

20. Did you have problems with Yellow Jacket, Wasp or Hornet Robbing in 2020?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

21. How did you do mite counts? (select all that apply)

☐ Did NOT Do Mite Counts

☐ Sugar Roll

☐ Sticky Bottom Board

☐ Alcohol Wash

☐ Other (please specify)

22. Approximately how often did you test for mites?

☐ NO Testing Done

☐ Once during the season

☐ Weekly

☐ Twice during the season

☐ Twice a month

☐ Three times during the season

☐ Monthly

☐ Other (please specify)

23. When did you treat for mites ? (check all that apply)

☐ Did NOT Treat

☐ September

☐ May

☐ October

☐ June

☐ November

☐ July

☐ December

☐ August

24. What did you winterize/insulate your colonies? (select all that apply)

☐ Did NOT Winterize

☐ Shaving box

☐ Bee Cozy

☐ Polystyrene/Rigid Insulation around sides

☐ Tar paper/tyvek/typar

☐ Insulation on top of colonies

☐ Quilt box

☐ Closed off Bottom Board

☐ Other (please specify)

25. What type of winter moisture system did you use (select all that apply)?

☐ NO Winter Moisture System Used

☐ Shim top cover

☐ Quilt box

☐ Winter inner cover

☐ Shavings box

☐ Rigid Insulation

☐ Absorbent Board/Homasote

☐ Venting (Open Screened Bottom Board, top vents, etc)

☐ Other (please specify)

26. What Non-Chemical Control Methods did you use as part of your Integrated Pest Management (IPM) (select all that apply)?

☐ Drone Frames

☐ Break in Brood Cycle (either intentionally or due to swarming)

☐ Powdered Sugar

☐ Didn't Practice IPM

☐ Screened Bottom Board

☐ Other (please specify)

27. Did you treat for Nosema & if so when? (select all that apply)

☐ Did NOT treat for Nosema

☐ Spring Feeding

☐ Summer

☐ Fall Feeding

28. How often do you typically go into a given colony during the beekeeping season?

☐ weekly

☐ Once a month

☐ Every 2-3 weeks

☐ Every Couple Months

☐ Other (please specify)

29. Enter the number of colonies that survived the winter that were requeened and were packages

Requeened colonies that survived

Packages that survived

30. What Pollen Supplement did you feed in the fall (select all that apply)?

☐ Didn't feed pollen supplement

☐ Megabee

☐ Pollen Patties

☐ Bee-Pro

☐ Global Patties

☐ Ultrabee

☐ AP23

☐ Other (please specify)

31. How was your honey production in 2020 compared to previous years?

☐ Above Average

☐ Average

☐ Below Average

☐ This is my first year I have nothing to compare to!

Other (please specify)



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4.

* 32. Would you like to enter information for another Apiary?

☐ Yes

☐ No



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5. Apiary 2 Information

* 33. Please enter town & county for the apiary

* 34. How many COLONIES were ALIVE on October 1, 2020 & today ? (Enter 0 if no colonies in this apiary)

of Colonies ALIVE on 10/1/20

of Colonies ALIVE today

35. In what months were Colonies lost? (Select all that apply)

☐ NO Colonies Were Lost

☐ October

☐ November

☐ December

☐ January

☐ February

☐ March

☐ Don't Know

* 36. How many NUCs were ALIVE on Oct 1, 2020 and TODAY? (Enter 0 if no NUCs in apiary)

of NUCs ALIVE on 10/1/20

of NUCs ALIVE TODAY

37. In what months were NUCs lost? (Select all that apply)

☐ NO NUCs Were Lost

☐ October

☐ November

☐ December

☐ January

☐ February

☐ March

☐ Don't Know

38. Why do you think your Colonies/NUCs died? (select all that apply)

☐ NO Colonies or NUCs Were Lost

☐ Varroa Mites

☐ Starvation

☐ Dysentery

☐ Nosema

☐ Bears

☐ Moisture

☐ Robbing

☐ Weak Colony

☐ Queen Issues

☐ Cold Temperatures

☐ Absconded

Other (please specify)

39. Which registered commercial varroa treatments did you use? (select all that apply)

☐ NO Commercial Treatments Used

☐ Apiguard

☐ Api Life Var

☐ Apistan

☐ Apivar

☐ Mite-Away Quick Strips (MAQS)

☐ HopGuard

☐ Oxalic Acid Vapor/Fogger

☐ Oxalic Acid Dribble

Other (please specify)

40. On average, how many times did you complete a FULL Varroa Commercial treatment in 2020?

☐ Did NOT Treat

☐ 1 time

☐ Other (please specify)

☐ 2 times

☐ > 2 times

41. On average how much sugar syrup did you feed a colony this fall?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> 0 gallons (Did NOT Feed in Fall) | <input type="radio"/> 3-4 gallons |
| <input type="radio"/> < 1 gallon | <input type="radio"/> > 4 gallons |
| <input type="radio"/> 1-2 gallons | <input type="radio"/> Fed, but don't know how much |
| <input type="radio"/> Other (please specify) | |

42. What did you feed your colonies over the winter? (select all that apply)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Did NOT Feed in Winter | <input type="checkbox"/> Granulated Sugar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fondant | <input type="checkbox"/> Winter Patties |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Candy Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Sugar Bricks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) | |

43. Is there any other information you'd like to share about this apiary?

* 44. Would you like to enter data on another apiary?

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|



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6. Apiary 3 Information

* 45. Please enter town & county for the apiary

* 46. How many COLONIES were ALIVE on October 1, 2020 & TODAY? (Enter 0 if no Colonies in Apiary)

of Colonies ALIVE on 10/1/20

of Colonies ALIVE TODAY

47. In what months were Colonies lost? (Select all that apply)

☐ NO Colonies Were Lost

☐ January

☐ October

☐ February

☐ November

☐ March

☐ December

☐ Don't Know

* 48. How many NUCs were ALIVE on Oct 1, 2020 and TODAY? (Enter 0 if no NUCs in apiary)

of NUCs ALIVE on 10/1/20

of NUCs ALIVE TODAY

49. In what months were NUCs lost? (Select all that apply)

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> NO NUCs Were Lost | <input type="checkbox"/> January |
| <input type="checkbox"/> October | <input type="checkbox"/> February |
| <input type="checkbox"/> November | <input type="checkbox"/> March |
| <input type="checkbox"/> December | <input type="checkbox"/> Don't Know |

50. Why do you think your Colonies/NUCs died? (select all that apply)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> NO Colonies or NUCs Were Lost | <input type="checkbox"/> Moisture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Varroa Mites | <input type="checkbox"/> Robbing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Starvation | <input type="checkbox"/> Weak Colony |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dysentery | <input type="checkbox"/> Queen Issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nosema | <input type="checkbox"/> Cold Temperatures |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bears | <input type="checkbox"/> Absconded |

Other (please specify)

51. Which registered commercial varroa treatments did you use? (select all that apply)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> NO Commercial Treatments Used | <input type="checkbox"/> Mite-Away Quick Strips (MAQS) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apiguard | <input type="checkbox"/> HopGuard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Api Life Var | <input type="checkbox"/> Oxalic Acid Vapor/Fogger |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apistan | <input type="checkbox"/> Oxalic Acid Dribble |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apivar | |

Other (please specify)

52. On average, how many times did you complete a FULL Varroa Commerical Treatment in 2020?

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Did NOT treat | <input type="radio"/> 2 times |
| <input type="radio"/> 1 time | <input type="radio"/> > 2 times |
| <input type="radio"/> Other (please specify) | |

53. On average how much sugar syrup did you feed a colony this fall?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> 0 gallons (Did NOT Feed in Fall) | <input type="radio"/> 3-4 gallons |
| <input type="radio"/> < 1 gallon | <input type="radio"/> > 4 gallons |
| <input type="radio"/> 1-2 gallons | <input type="radio"/> Fed, but don't know how much |
| <input type="radio"/> Other (please specify) | |

54. What did you feed your colonies over the winter? (select all that apply)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Did NOT Feed in Winter | <input type="checkbox"/> Granulated Sugar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fondant | <input type="checkbox"/> Winter Patties |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Candy Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Sugar Bricks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) | |

55. Is there any other information you'd like to share about this apiary?