

Preliminary Results 2019 PSBA Winter Loss Survey

Here is a quick look at the results of the Winter loss survey. We will put together a more detailed list in the near future. First of all I want to thank all of you who participated this year. We had the most responses this year that we have ever had. Thanks to all of you who helped spread the word. We especially want to thank Karen Roccasceca from PDA for promoting the survey in her letter to beekeepers. Responses tripled the day after she sent out that letter.

- 778 responses
- 52% loss

Reason for loss

- Unknown 26.5%
- To Small cluster 23.5%
- Mites 15.8%
- Queen failure 10.5%
- Other 23.7%

80% of respondents fed some form of winter feed.

Top choice was Sugar candy / Fondant

73% monitored for mites 27% do not

Sugar roll was top choice followed by alcohol wash

47% reported having small hive beetle. 49% have not and 4% were unsure. That is a substantial raise since previous years.

Top three responding counties were:

1. Montgomery
2. Chester
3. Allegheny

The most popular race of honey bees were Italians

40% of respondents had between 2 -5 years of experience