GNE13-055: Integrating social and natural science to improve pollination outreach and education for farmers

Northeast SARE 2015 Final Report – Blueberry Grower Pre-Survey Results

Table 1. Response to the question "How effective do you think wild bees are for pollinating your crop?"
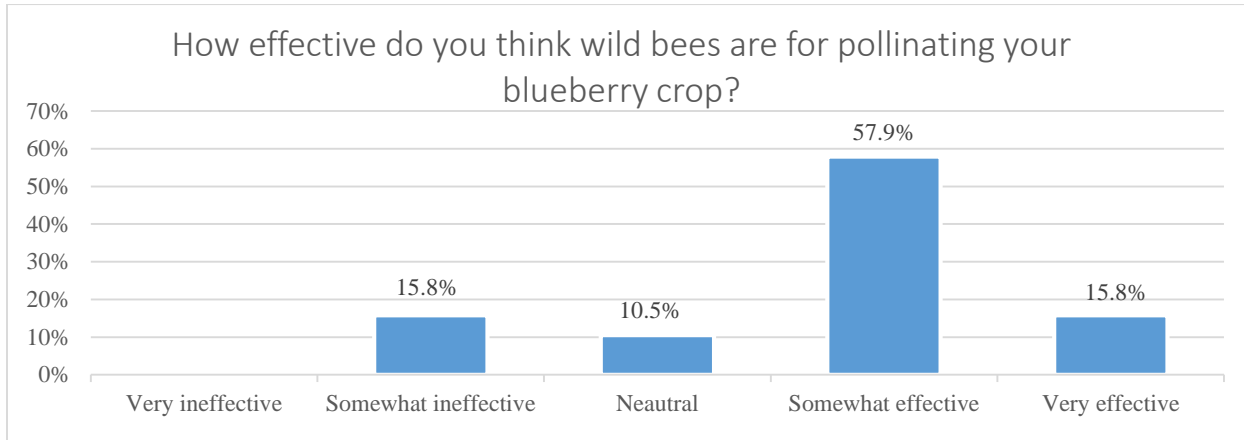

How effective do you think wild bees are for pollinating your blueberry crop?

	Very ineffective	Somewhat ineffective	Neautral	Somewhat effective	Very effective
		15.8%	10.5%	57.9%	15.8%

Table 2. Response to the question "In your opinion, how often would you be able to get sufficient pollination from wild bees alone?"

In your opinion, how often would you be able to get sufficient polliantion from wild bees alone?

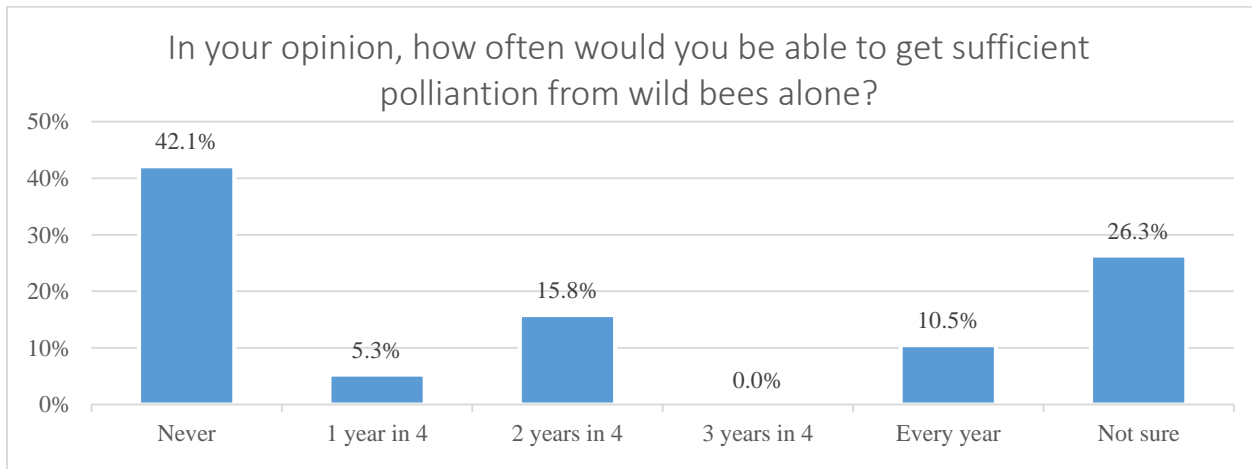|	Never	1 year in 4	2 years in 4	3 years in 4	Every year	Not sure
	42.1%	5.3%	15.8%	0.0%	10.5%	26.3%

Table 3. Respondents' past, current, and planned use of nine pollination management practices.

Pollination Management Practice	Regularly Use	Tried & Discontinued	Never Used	Planned to use in 2014
Identify different kinds of wild bees in my fields	38.9% (n=7)	5.6% (n=1)	55.6% (n=10)	53.3% (n=8)
Monitor the size of the wild bee population in my fields in any way	5.6% (n=1)	11.1% (n=2)	83.3% (n=15)	26.7% (n=4)
Estimate bees' contribution to fruit-set in my crops	11.8% (n=2)	11.8% (n=2)	76.5% (n=13)	40% (n=6)
Use leafcutting bee nest boxes or bumblebee nesting items	5.6% (n=1)	16.7% (n=3)	77.8% (n=14)	6.7% (n=1)
Avoid mowing wildflowers to provide food for pollinators	41.2% (n=7)	5.9% (n=1)	52.9% (n=9)	13.3% (n=2)
Plant wildflowers or bee meadows specifically for pollinators	11.8% (n=2)	0% (n=0)	88.2% (n=15)	33.3% (n=5)
Leave standing deadwood for pollinators	38.9% (n=7)	0% (n=0)	61.1% (n=11)	26.7% (n=4)
Alter pesticide application to avoid harming pollinators	88.2% (n=15)	0% (n=0)	11.8% (n=2)	N/A
Limit floral competition during bloom by cutting wildflowers or other blooming plants	17.6 (n=3)	0% (n=0)	82.4% (n=14)	20% (n=3)

Table 4. Respondents' perceptions of the difficulty of identifying bees, monitoring bees, and estimating bees' contribution to fruit-set.

Pollination Management Practice	Very Easy	Easy	Neutral	Difficult	Very Difficult	Not Sure
Identifying different kinds of wild bees in my field(s)	5.3% (n=1)	26.3% (n=5)	31.6% (n=6)	26.3% (n=5)	0% (n=0)	10.5% (n=2)
Monitoring the size of the wild bee population in my field(s)	0% (n=0)	15.8% (n=3)	31.6% (n=6)	26.3% (n=5)	15.8% (n=3)	10.5% (n=2)
Estimating bees' contribution to fruit-set in my crop(s)	0% (n=0)	10.5% (n=2)	26.3% (n=5)	42.1% (n=8)	5.3% (n=1)	15.8% (n=3)