



Wintering of bee colonies in South Bačka part of Serbia

Mr Pihler Ivan, Faculty of Agriculture, Animal Science Department, Trg Dositeja Obradovića 8, 21000 Novi Sad, +381 21 4853474, ipihler@gmail.com,
Dr Mirjana Inkulov, Faculty of Agriculture, Animal Science Department, Trg Dositeja Obradovića 8, 21000 Novi Sad, +381 21 4853325, mircink@polj.ns.ac.yu
Dr Miha Mladenovi, Faculty of Agriculture Belgrade, Nemanjina 6., 11080 Zemun

The aim

The aim of this research was to find out how many bees and broods, as well as how much honey and pollen was needed for successful survival of bee colonies during winter in the conditions of mild continental climate, which is typical for Serbian region of South Bačka.



Materials and methods

147 bee colonies situated in LR hives were controlled at the beginning of autumn of 2007, when it was detected: the number of frames covered by bees, the number of frames covered by broods, the number of frames covered by honey and the number of frames covered by pollen. The control of wintering was at the beginning of spring 2008.

Results

Table 1: Average amount of bees, broods, honey, pollen, and the average grade quality broods and aggressiveness, watched on September 2007. Studied on 147 bee communities.



Watching feature	Average
Number of frames possessed bees	6,29
Number of frames with the brood	1,10
Number of frames with honey	5,17
Number of frames with pollen	0,27
Score of brood	2,90

Table 2.: Number of bee colonies that have survived the winter and number of bee colonies that are not survived the winter.

	The absolute number	Percentage %
Number of bee colonies that have survived the winter	122	82,99
Number of bee colonies that are not survived the winter	25	17,01
Total	147	100



Conclusion

95% of bee colonies with 7 frames full of bees at the beginning of autumn were survived. The same rate of survival was of bee colonies which had six and more frames with honey. The rate of survival was 92% when bee colonies had one or more frames covered by broods.

All bee colonies that had more than 7 frames with bees, more than 1 frame from the brood and more than 6 frames with honey successfully survived the winter and penetrated ready in the production season in 2008. year.