

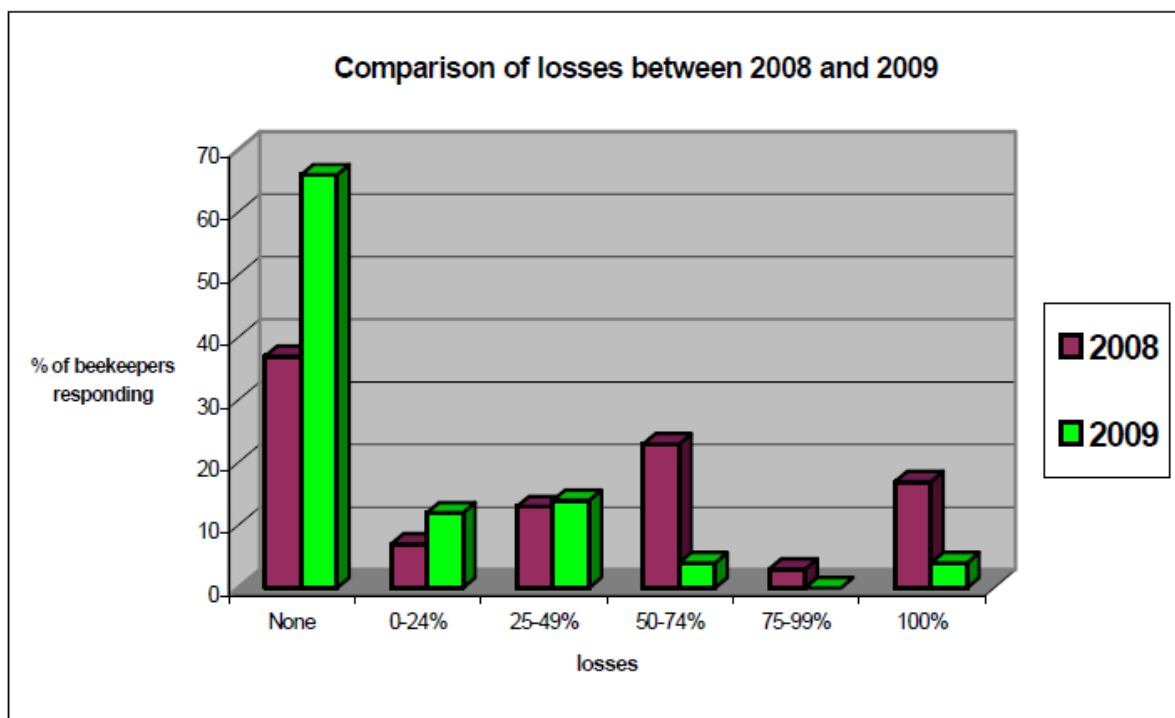
## Colony Losses Survey 2009

23 members have responded to this year's survey of colony losses and the picture is very different from last year.

From a total of **94** colonies on the 1st November 2008, by 15th April this year only **11** were lost, giving percentage losses of just **11.7%**. Compare this with last year's overall losses of 35.6%!

No one lost more than 2 colonies and 15 out of the 23 beekeepers (66%) were able to report no losses at all.

The chart shows a comparison between 2008 and 2009. The red bars are the percentage of beekeepers in 2008 who reported losses at each of the levels between none and 100%. The green bars are the values for 2009.



The symptoms reported were also different. This year four members reported that their colonies had gone queenless by the spring, quite likely because of the poor summer last year. Two beekeepers also lost colonies due to Nosema and I am hoping that we shall be able to set up a monitoring service for this disease next autumn.