

2010 Michigan Beekeepers Association (MBA) Membership Survey

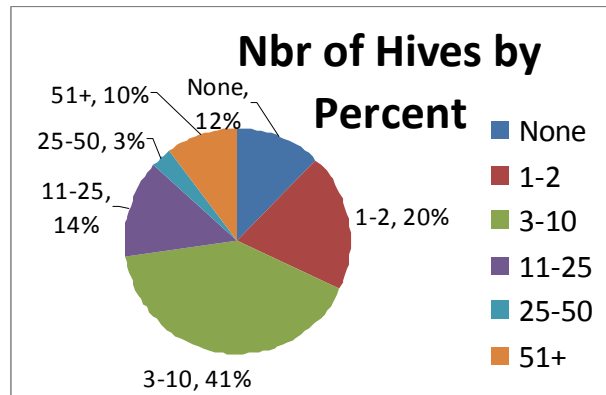
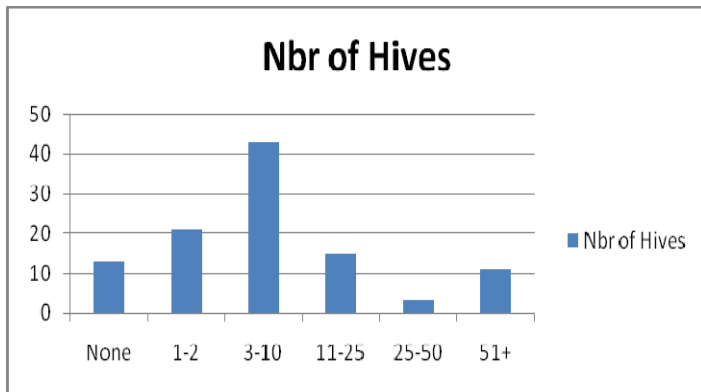
The MBA is embarking upon a project to redo the MBA web site. As part of this process, we would like to conduct a survey to get a better idea of how we can make the web site more responsive to our members. We thank you in advance for helping us with this important task.

First, tell us a little about yourself...

1. Number of hives you have? (Check only one)

- None
 1 – 2
 3 – 10
 11 – 25
 25 – 50
 51 or more

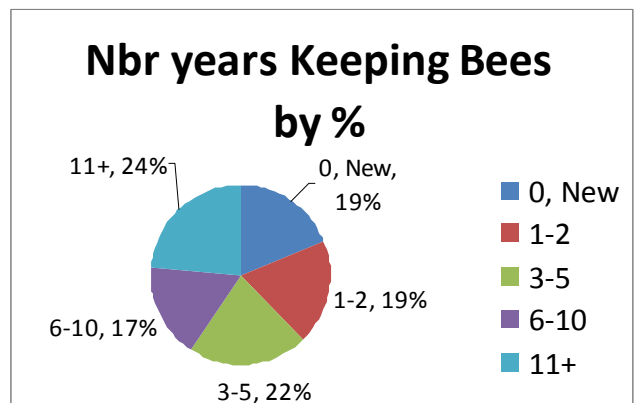
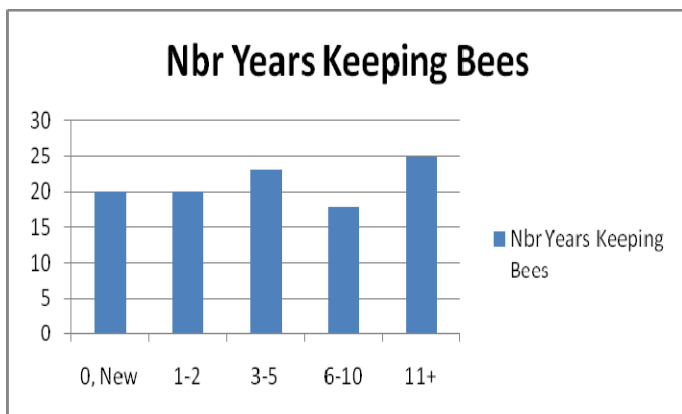
	None	1-2	3-10	11-25	25-50	51+	Total
Raw Count	13	21	43	15	3	11	106
Percent	12%	20%	41%	14%	3%	10%	100%



2. How many years have you been keeping bees? (Check only one)

- 0, New
 1 – 2 yrs
 3 – 5 yrs
 6 – 10 yrs
 11 or more

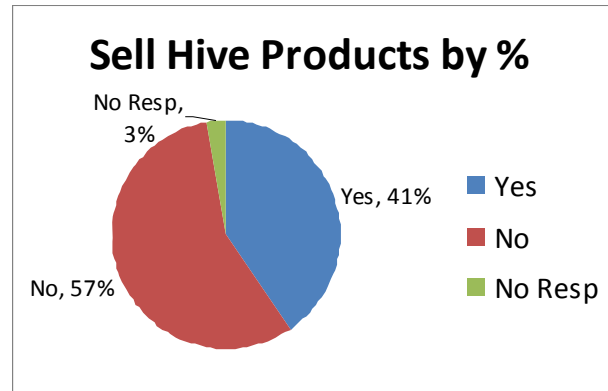
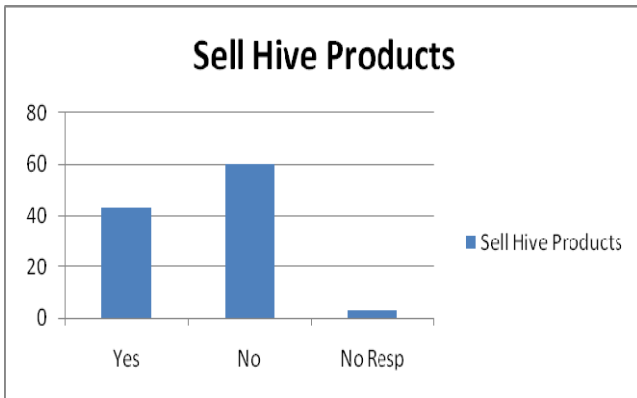
	0, New	1-2	3-5	6-10	11+	Total
Raw Count	20	20	23	18	25	106
Percent	19%	19%	22%	17%	24%	100%



3. Do you sell hive products? (Check only one)

Yes No

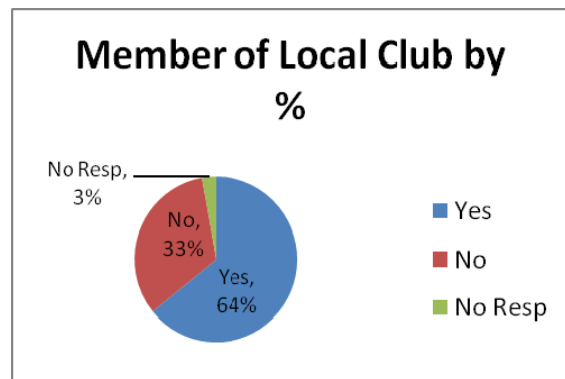
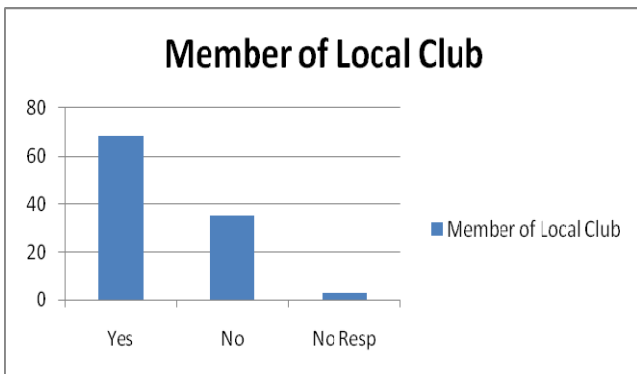
	Yes	No	No Resp	Total
Raw Count	43	60	3	106
Percent	41%	57%	3%	100%



4. Are you a member of a local bee club? (Check only one)

Yes No

	Yes	No	No Resp	Total
Raw Count	68	35	3	106
Percent	64%	33%	3%	100%



Comments...

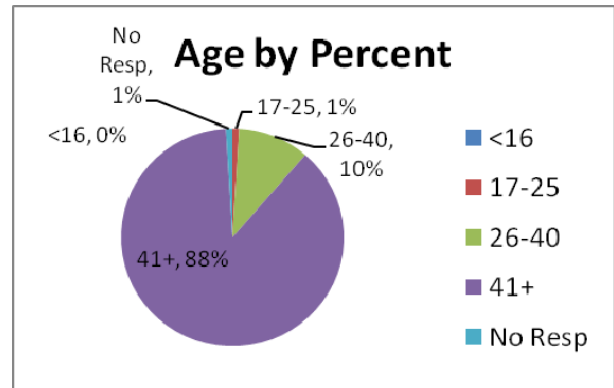
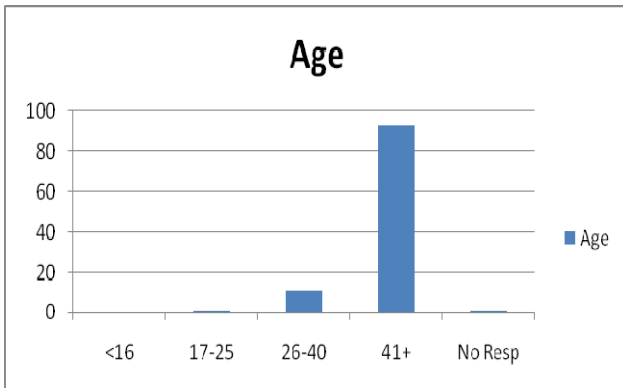
Want to start one St. Clair county.

Not yet

5. How old are you? (Check only one)

- Less than 16 yrs
 17 - 25 yrs
 26 – 40 yrs
 41+ yrs

	<16	17-25	26-40	41+	No Resp	Total
Raw Count	0	1	11	93	1	106
Percent	0%	1%	10%	88%	1%	100%

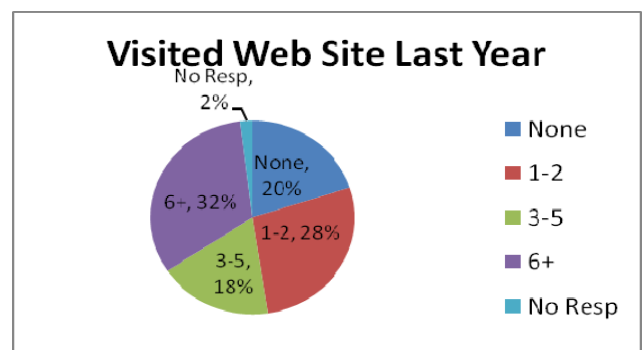
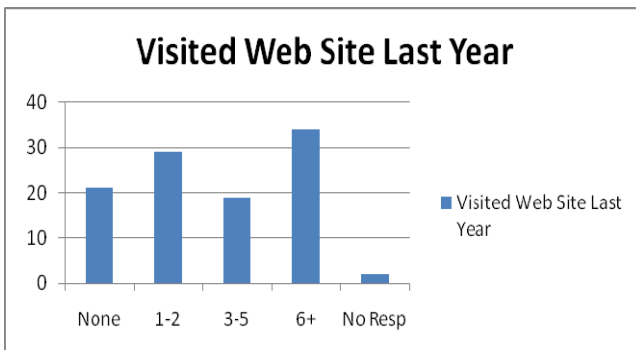


Thinking of the past year only...

6. How many times have you visited the MBA web site? (Check only one)

- None
 1 – 2
 3 – 5
 6+

	None	1-2	3-5	6+	No Resp	Total
Raw Count	21	29	19	34	2	105
Percent	20%	28%	18%	32%	2%	100%

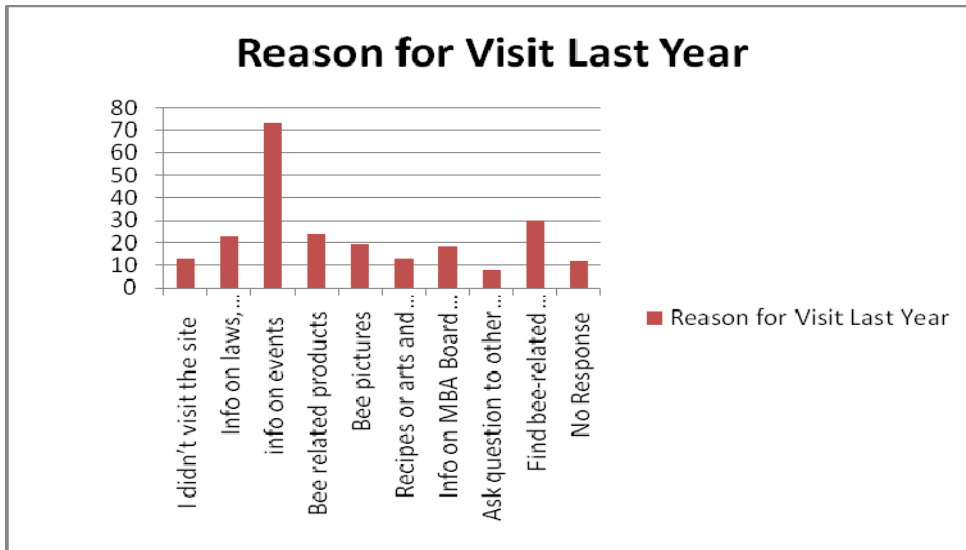


7. If you visited the MBA web site, what were you looking for? (Check all that apply)

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I didn't visit the site | <input type="checkbox"/> Info on laws, legislation | <input type="checkbox"/> Info on events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bee related products | <input type="checkbox"/> Bee pictures | <input type="checkbox"/> Recipes or arts and crafts info |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Info on MBA Board actions | <input type="checkbox"/> Ask question to other beekeepers | <input type="checkbox"/> Find bee-related products |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please tell us) _____ | | |

Reason for Visit	Count	Percent
I didn't visit the site	13	
Info on laws, legislation	23	
info on events	73	
Bee related products	24	
Bee pictures	19	
Recipes or arts and crafts info	13	
Info on MBA Board actions	18	
Ask question to other beekeepers	8	
Find bee-related products	30	
No Response	12	

233



Comments...

Post event & its break-out sessions further in advance – everyone is busy. Need to plan event into schedule.

Kalamazoo Bee Club

General info

ANR week info

Need minutes presented in newsletter.

Up to date info...

Honey prices (current)

Just looking

When the MAIN beekeeper tells me if something he thinks I'd enjoy

Did not know, but I will.

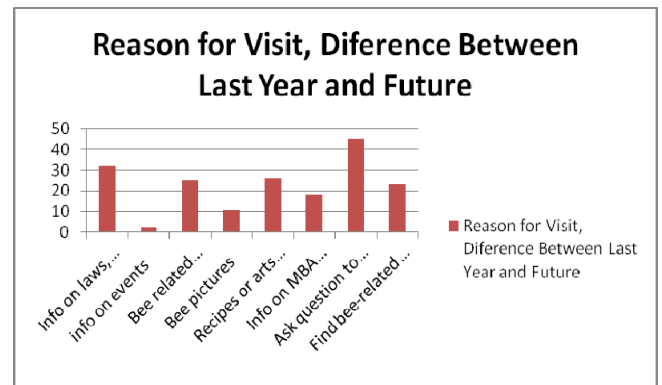
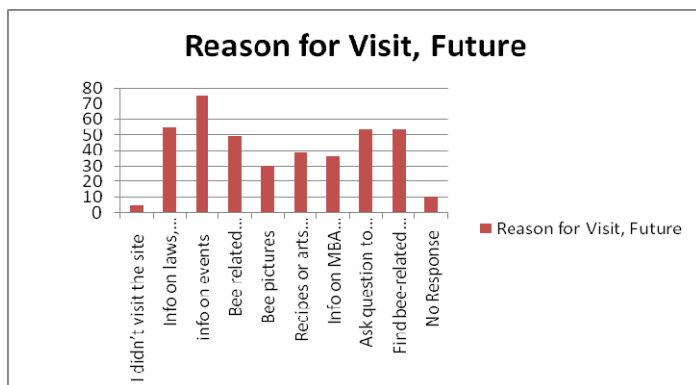
"How To" info

Thinking of what COULD be in the future...

8. Why would you visit the MBA web site? (Check all that apply)

- I didn't visit the site
- Info on laws, legislation
- Info on events
- Bee related products
- Bee pictures
- Recipes or arts and crafts info
- Info on MBA Board actions
- Ask question to other beekeepers
- Find bee-related products
- Other (please tell us) _____

Reason for Visit	Count	Difference
I didn't visit the site	5	-8
Info on laws, legislation	55	32
info on events	75	2
Bee related products	49	25
Bee pictures	30	11
Recipes or arts and crafts info	39	26
Info on MBA Board actions	36	18
Ask question to other beekeepers	53	45
Find bee-related products	53	23
No Response	10	-2
	405	



Comments...

Videos, articles, etc.

Yes, this is a volunteer organization, but lanning in advance will draw more.

Kalamazoo Bee Club

Forum/Blog about beekeeping.

Honey market data

Web links

Club mtgs, topics

Advertise pollination service

Z. Huang used to have a function on his web site where people could find a local beekeeper for thinks like collecting a swarm. I was unable to maintain my info on this site because I forgot my password. I think that this would be a good feature to allow the general public to find and contact local beekeepers. People google things they are looking for and we should help them get in touch with MBA members that have services or products to offer.

Guidance for new beekeepers, bee biology, find courses.

Educational opportunities, current research in beekeeping.

Classified ads.

Bee diseases

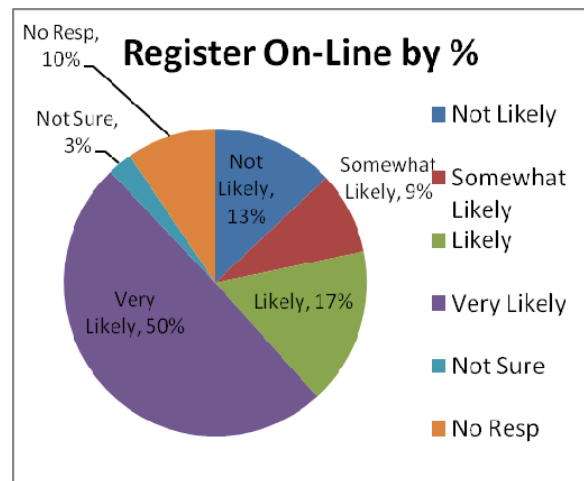
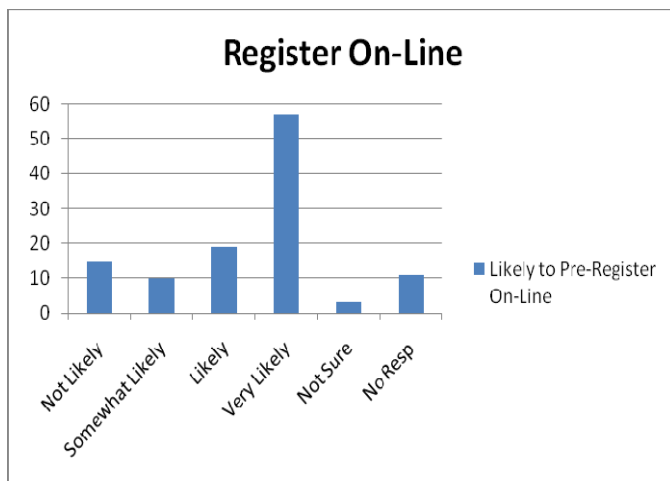
Would like to sell used bee equipment

"How To" info

9. How likely would you be to pre-register on-line (submit payment) for a MBA event? (Check only one)

Not likely Somewhat likely Likely Very Likely Not sure

	Not Likely	Somewhat Likely	Likely	Very Likely	Not Sure	No Resp	Total
Raw Count	15	10	19	57	3	11	115
Percent	13%	9%	17%	50%	3%	10%	100%



Comments...

Yes, must know number attending.

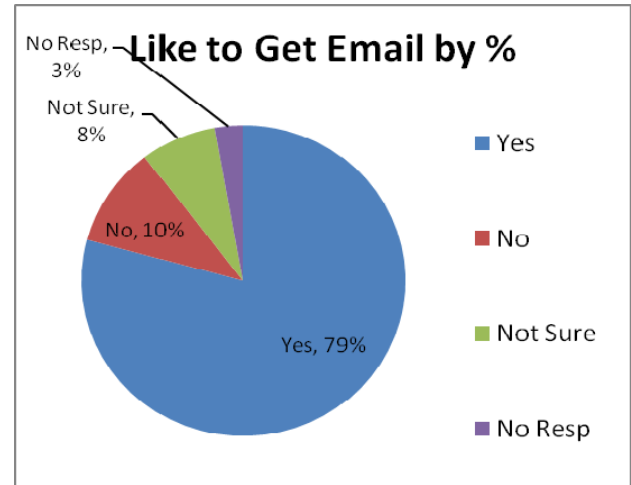
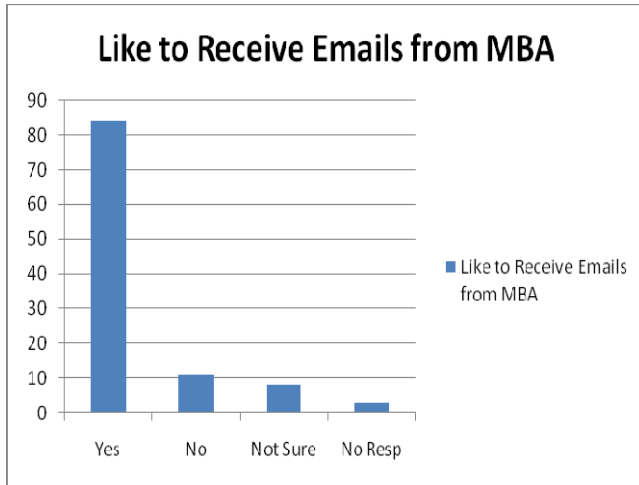
Photo-copied registration form.

Would have very much like to pre-register w/credit card on line.

10. Would you like to receive emails from MBA on bee-related topics? (Check only one)

Yes No Not sure (tell us more) _____

	Yes	No	Not Sure	No Resp	Total
Raw Count	84	11	8	3	106
Percent	79%	10%	8%	3%	100%



Comments.
Newsletter

Would rather subscribe to RSS fee

Many organizations fire small updates – lead back to formal web site.

Web site links are enough.

No time for email

A list of upcoming classes & prices that other clubs are having rather than having to access every club's web site.

legislation, calendars

I have bee yards to work!

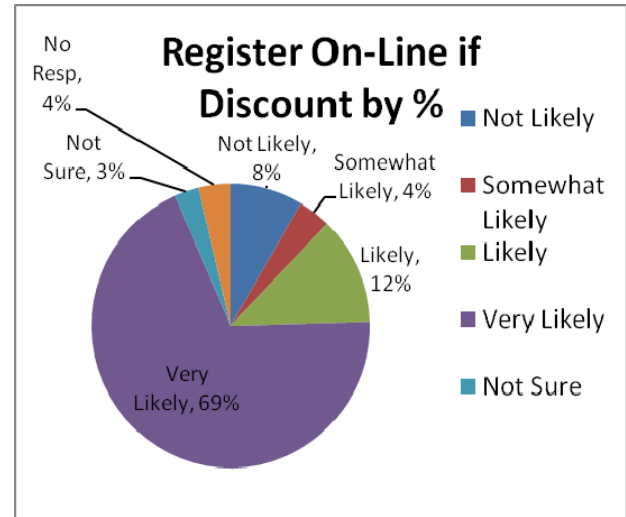
I would rather go to the web site. Don't like being inundated w/emails. That may or may not be something I'm interested in.

Maybe if works for our 'MAC'.

11. How likely would you be to pre-register on-line for a MBA event if there was a discount? (Check only one)

Not likely Somewhat likely Likely Very Likely Not sure

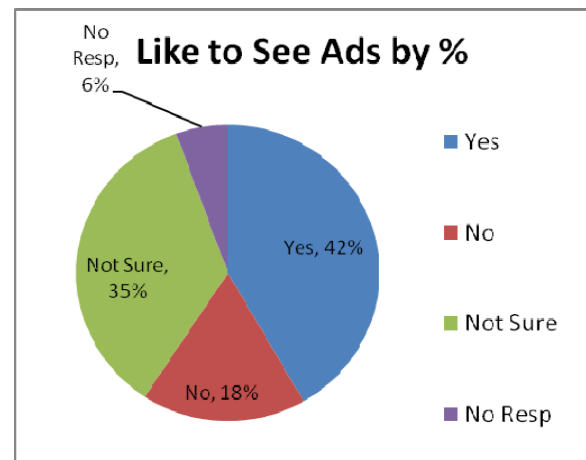
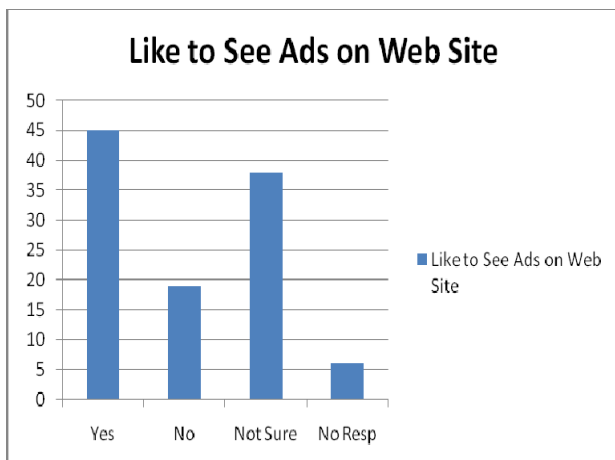
	Not Likely	Somewhat Likely	Likely	Very Likely	Not Sure	No Resp	Total
Raw Count	9	4	13	73	3	4	106
Percent	8%	4%	12%	69%	3%	4%	100%



12. Would you like to see beekeeping-related advertising on the MBA web site? (Check only one)

Yes No Not sure (tell us more) _____

	Yes	No	Not Sure	No Resp	Total
Raw Count	45	19	38	6	108
Percent	42%	18%	35%	6%	100%



Comments...

If not overwhelming

Nominal fee. The service will lead folks to the web site/events.

Maybe in a separate link with a table of contents/grouped by types of product.

I wouldn't want it overrun with ads but that's reality.

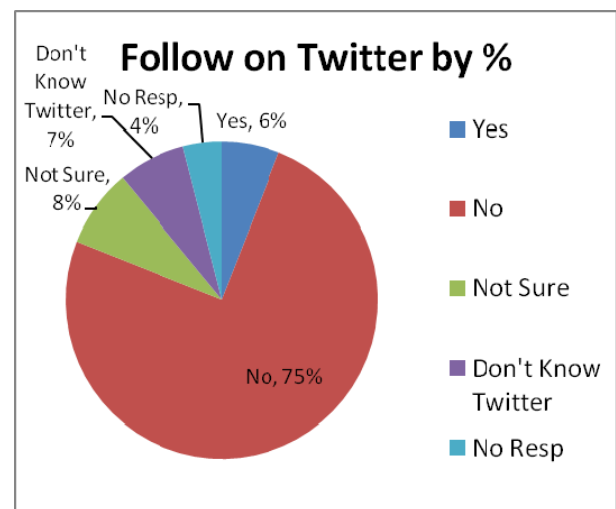
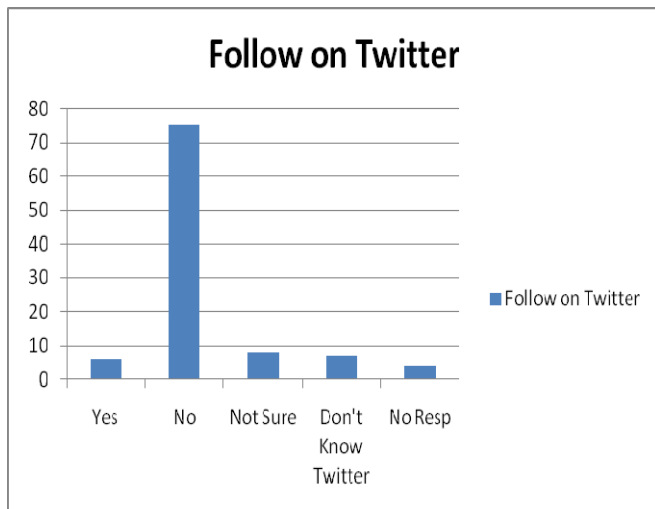
Maybe Michigan products ONLY!

Buy/sell equipment. Help wanted.

13. If MBA used Twitter, would you follow it ? (Check only one)

Yes No Not sure I don't know what Twitter is

	Yes	No	Not Sure	Don't Know Twitter	No Resp	Total
Raw Count	6	75	8	7	4	100
Percent	6%	75%	8%	7%	4%	100%



Comments...

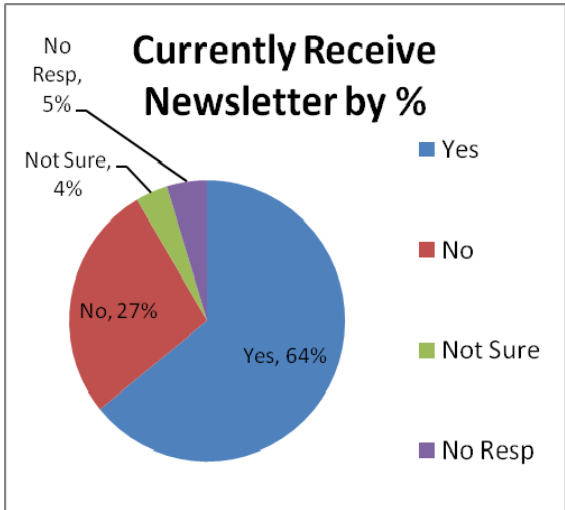
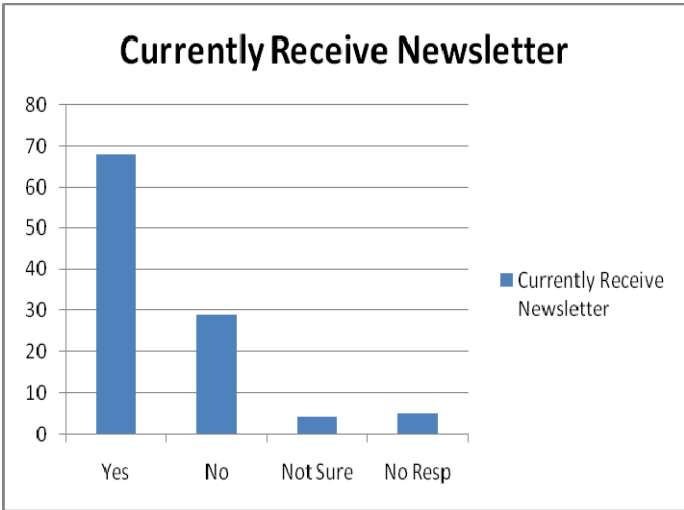
Facebook!

The following questions concern the MBA newsletter.

14. Do you currently receive the MBA newsletter? (Check only one)

Yes No Not sure (tell us more) _____

	Yes	No	Not Sure	No Resp	Total
Raw Count	68	29	4	5	106
Percent	64%	27%	4%	5%	100%



Comments....
We were missed a few months.

Very seldom.

Do I need to be a MBA member?

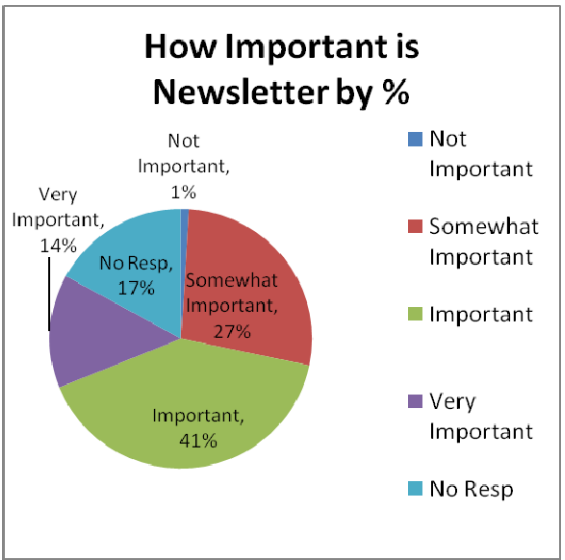
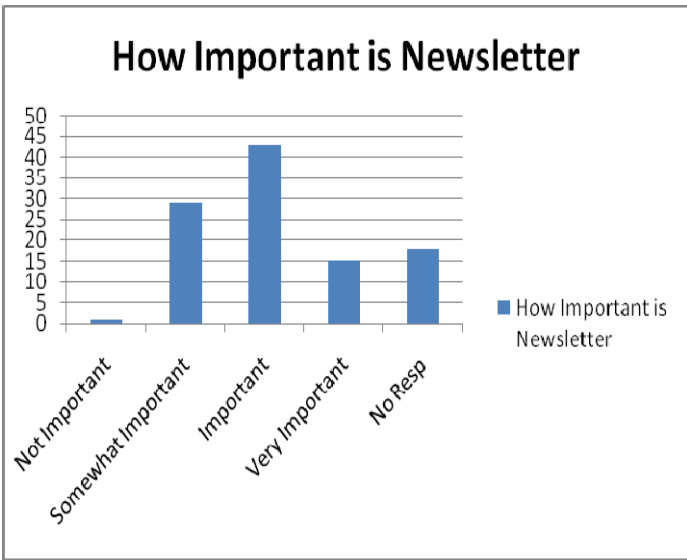
Just joined.

Haven't received on yet, new member.

15. How important is the MBA newsletter to you? (Check only one)

- Not important
 Somewhat important
 Important
 Very important

	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Important	Very Important	No Resp	Total
Raw Count	1	29	43	15	18	106
Percent	1%	27%	41%	14%	17%	100%

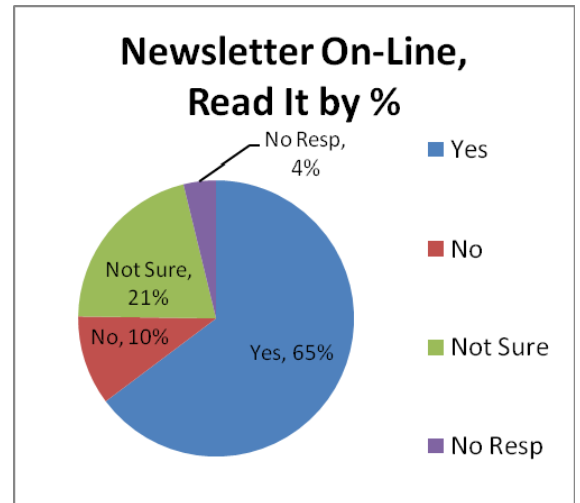
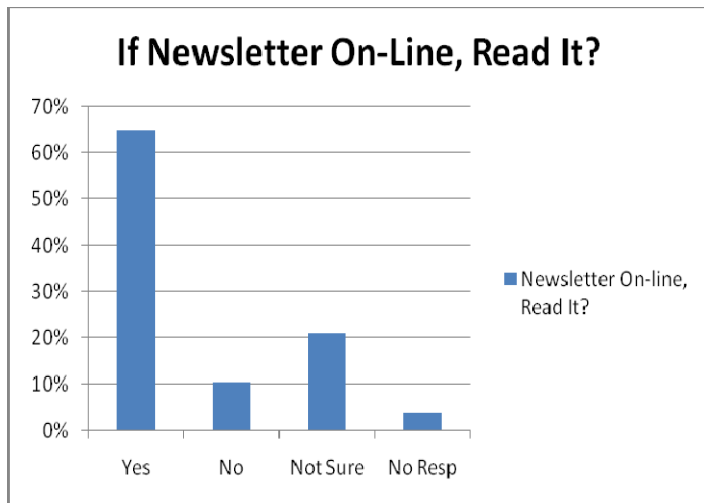


Comments...
Not sure

16. If the MBA newsletter was available on-line at the MBA web site, would you access it? (Check only one)

Yes No Not sure (tell us more) _____

	Yes	No	Not Sure	No Resp	Total
Raw Count	68	11	22	4	105
Percent	65%	10%	21%	4%	100%



Comments...

If I remember to check.

Would need to know when available

Check out the Michigan Beekeepers site monthly news.

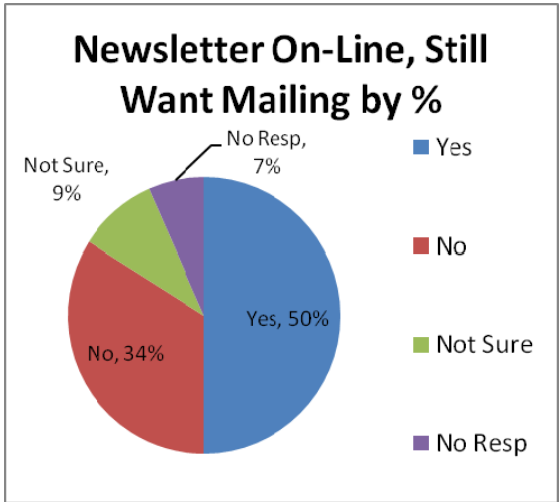
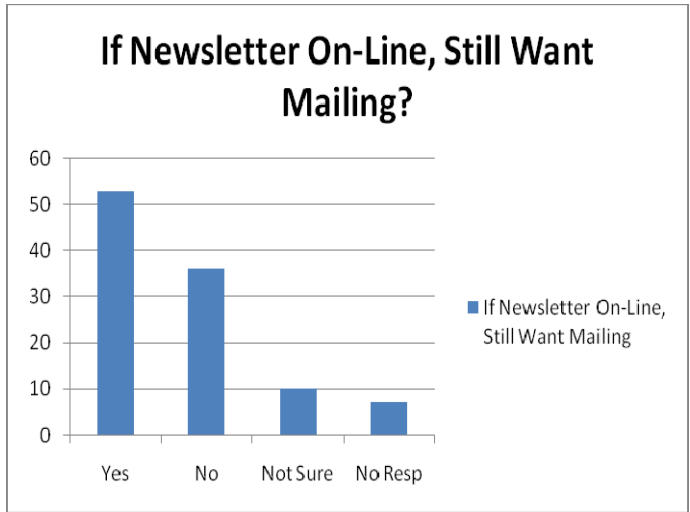
Not all of us like computers.

Yes, but would need an email prompt.

17. If the newsletter was available on-line, would you still want to receive a mailed copy? (Check only one)

Yes No Not sure (tell us more) _____

	Yes	No	Not Sure	No Resp	Total
Raw Count	53	36	10	7	106
Percent	50%	34%	9%	7%	100%



Comments....

Sometimes I can't get on the site.

I would like it emailed to me rather than having to remember to go get it...or at least the link.

Because not everyone has a computer.

Save paper & postage

If I could print out an article I would like then I wouldn't need a mailed copy.

Maybe

Not necessary – must download quickly

18. Do you read the ads in the MBA newsletter? (Check only one)

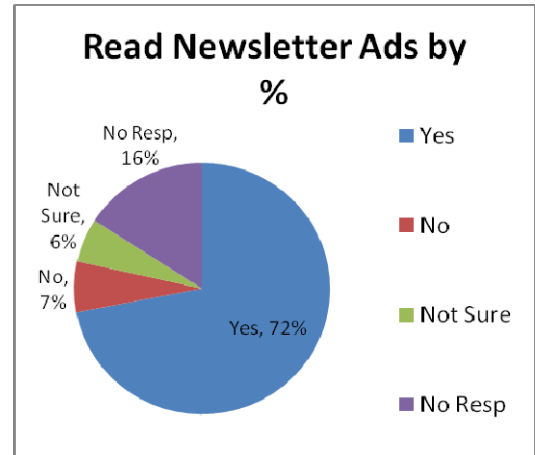
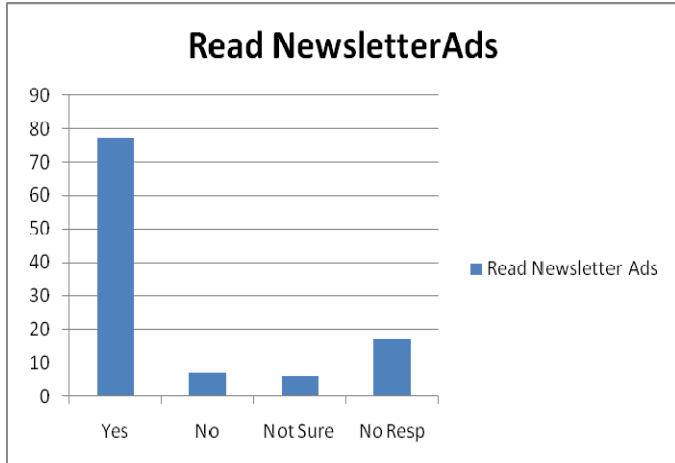
Yes

No

Not sure

(tell us more) _____

	Yes	No	Not Sure	No Resp	Total
Raw Count	77	7	6	17	107
Percent	72%	7%	6%	16%	100%



Comments...

Sometimes/usually

I have not gotten it.

Sometimes, not regularly.

If they get put in. Ours didn't.

But prefer MBA members only

Never got one

Have not seen one yet

Your written comments are very important to us. If you have anything you would like us to know about the MBA web site – what it is or what it could be – then please indicate below.

Some rooms are not large enough to hold all the people attending. For example, reading the bee frame.
Could not understand or hear Z. Huang.

At the ANR week demonstrative need to e up on a stage for all to see. Coffee was bad, not enough coffee, clean cups, garbage cans.
Needs better organization. More advertising.

MSU is getting crowded – can we improve on this situation somehow?

Please make presentations from meetings available on web site or CDROM distributed w/program at meeting.

Figure out a different way to tell the main speaker that time is running out BESIDES walking on stage and interrupting him.

Classes not starting on time. Classes then running over because of... Need “time” monitor for each presentation, not just with speaker at 9am. Too much time between sessions – 10-15 mins tops.

I would like to help start a local club in St Clair country. Any help or suggestions would be greatly appreciated. Thanks.

New beekeeper this season – forums on line very helpful. Dr. Huang’s pictures are incredible, beautiful. Could use some bee anatomy pictures. Updates on diseases, practical, organic practices. Need to have better signs at conference. Plan for seating for popular classes, food that is available in area, places to sit and eat.

Our first trip here – we really enjoyed the workshops – the presenters were excellent & very knowledgeable.

Newsletter not informative enough for new beekeepers. Very general information given as a whole. Very pretty but not a lot of substance.

Website needs updating.

I would like to see a timeline – what to do – when to do it. It might be interesting to have a “stupid” things I did page – where “newbees” could share. Organized by topic. I would like to see more information. Example – Spring meeting – you could have the classes listed (I think you did) – but I would like to see a brief description of class. (I wasted time at a class because it was geared toward newbees – if there was a brief description – I could have avoided that.) I think just share more info – you do it at the high level jut get some low levels. P.S. This is input – not criticism. I am a computer programmer/web designer by trade – just trying to be helpful.

I went to the MBA web site a couple time and found it to be so out dated, I never returned. Besides, I get 99% more info from my local club.

Info for newbies & for not so newbies. Sidebar of what’s happening in the hive, schedule of events for around the state that would be of interest to small quantity bee keepers (less than 10 hives).

You guys are doing a great job! In recent years there has been a great increase in the attendance at the ANR week conference. Many of the people that I run across are interested in planting bee forage type flower in there (sic) yards. I think that information and sources where things like this could be found would be useful addition to the web site.

I wish that MBA had presentations on beekeeping, for public education, that I could download & use. I’m a good public speaker, have access to many community clubs. But I’m a novice beekeeper and it’s a lot of work to do research to put a talk together. There is much experience & knowledge in MBA that could be shared. I would LOVE to have a presentation on benefits of bees to society, threats bees face today, and what individuals (non-beekeeper) can do to help bees.

There is usually nothing regarding the MBA in newsletter. The format of newsletter is great, but nothing on MBA Board action. No minutes or Treas. report.

The newsletter needs to always be sent out with information about what can be done to help us beekeepers. (Not about other hives). INFO!

COMB has an excellent web site to reference for ideas.

Bee diseases. How do you control them.

As a new beekeeper I gathered valuable information. I think the registration was unorganized. I couldn't really find info about the schedule until about 2 weeks before. I even emailed a couple officers. I got a reply from only one and the couldn't supply the requested info. I finally went to our local beekeepers club president who provided the info.

Would be willing to donate something for auction table.

I have been attending the March beekeeping conference for six years. This is the best conference yet. The choice of lecturers & the speakers is excellent.

Could you sell used bee equipment on the web site?

Ease of use is very important for a web site. Ease of printing or emailing info for sharing is very important.

If advertising is done on web site I would like to see that some screening is done to the advertising. So I could have some confidence in doing business with them.

It would be beneficial for each speaker to provide a hand out that provides information that was presented. Another option is for the information that was presented (Power Point, etc.) to have a link on MBA. It supports going "green", but would make the information accessible.