

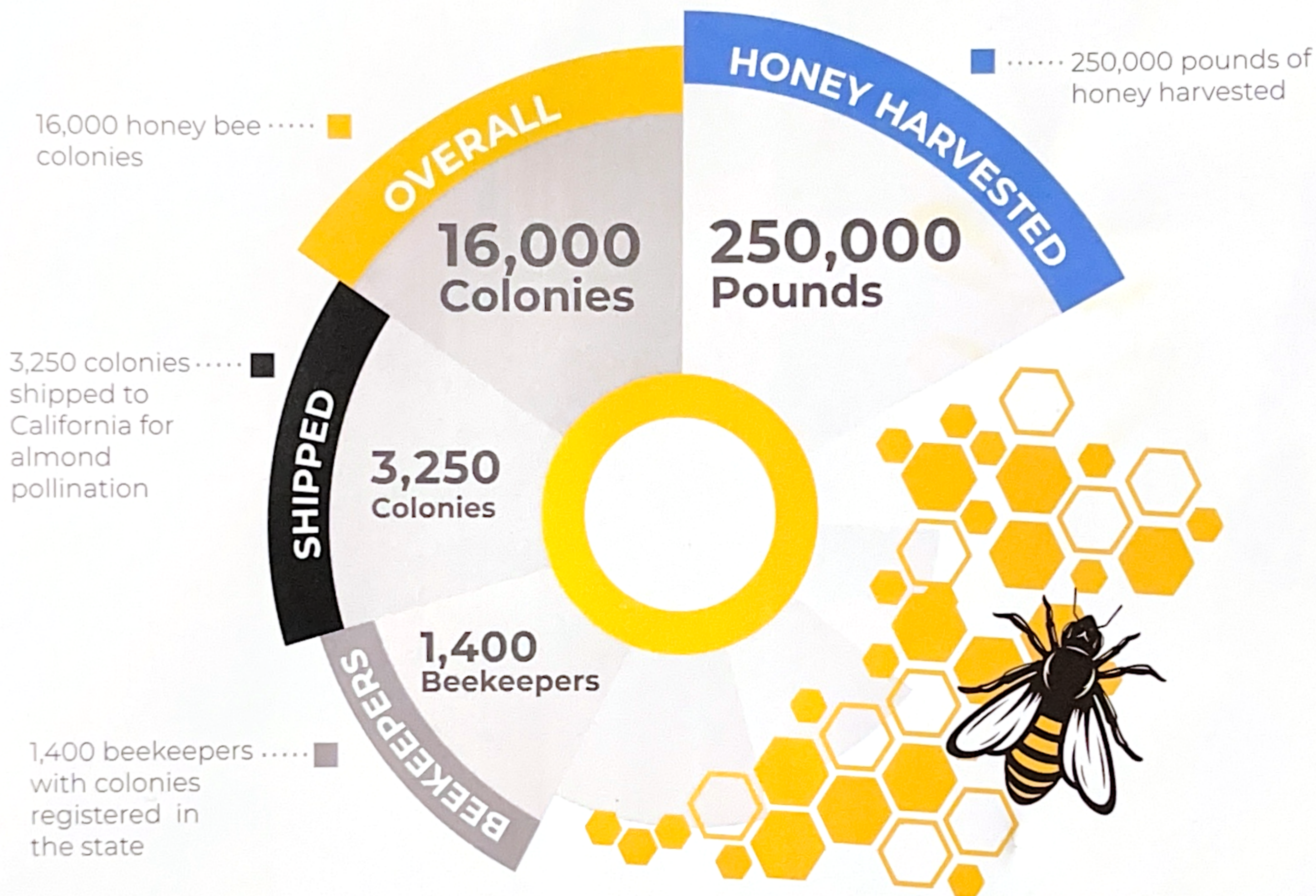
BEEKEEPING IN WEST VIRGINIA



West Virginia DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER, KENT A. LEONHARDT

WEST VIRGINIA FACTS (ANNUAL)

Honey bees are essential to agriculture as well as to the surrounding ecosystem, pollinating not only cultivated crops but wild species as well. Beekeeping has dramatic positive impacts at widely different operational scales from the small background hobbyist beekeeper with just a few hives up to a full-scale commercial size operation managing thousands of colonies.



PRODUCTS

Major crops pollinated by honey bees in WV:

apples, strawberries, blueberries, blackberries, raspberries, pumpkins, alfalfa, and many others



COLONY CARE

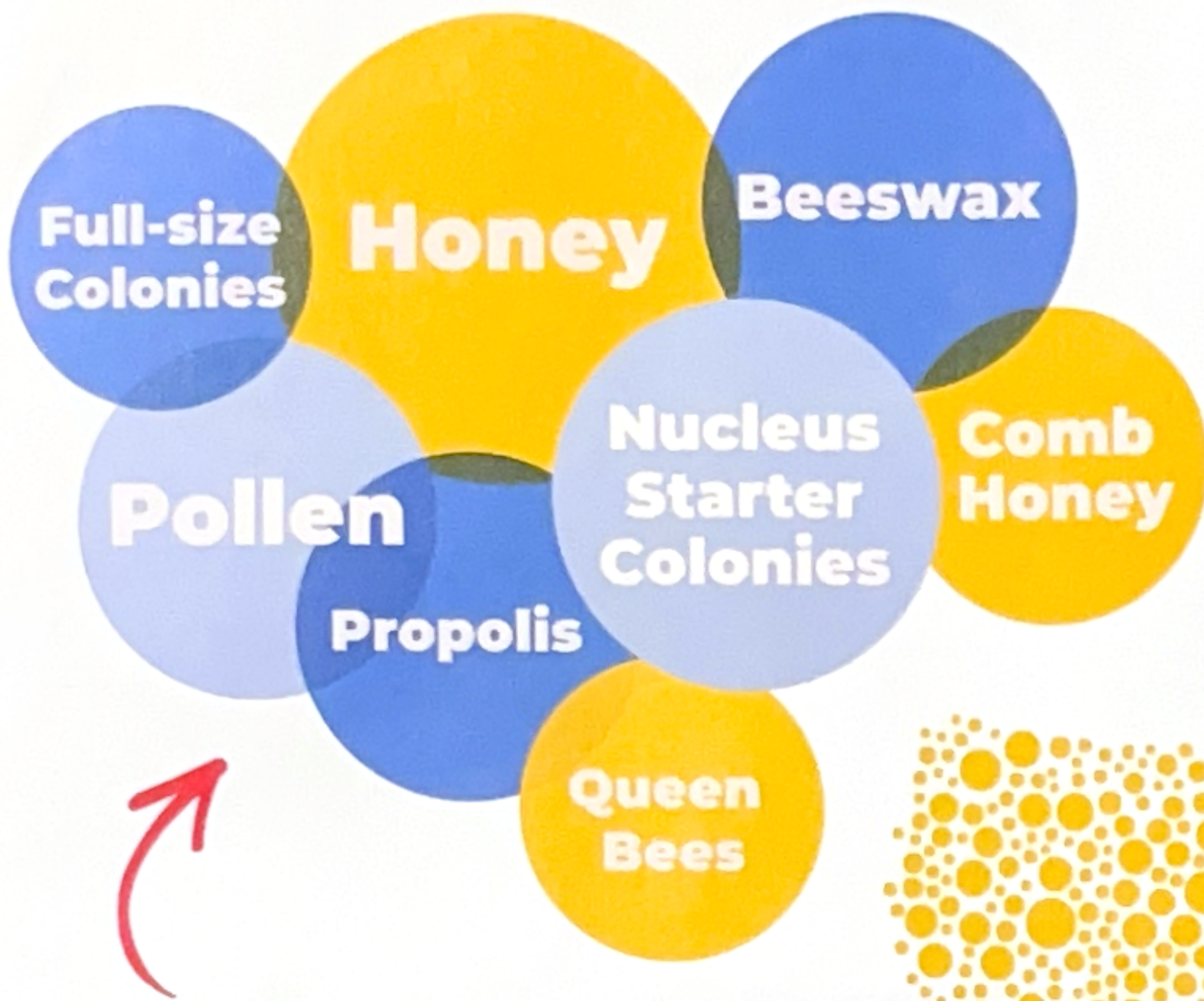
The WVDA apiary staff works closely with beekeepers to assist them in keeping their colonies disease-free



INSPECTION

Inspection services are provided for disease issues, the sale of bees and related equipment, as well as the interstate movement of bees to other states for crop pollination

AGRICULTURAL FACTS



BEEKEEPER PRODUCTS

Beeswax is the second most important hive product from an economic standpoint.

CROP REVENUE

Honeybees pollinate \$15 billion worth of crops in the United States each year,



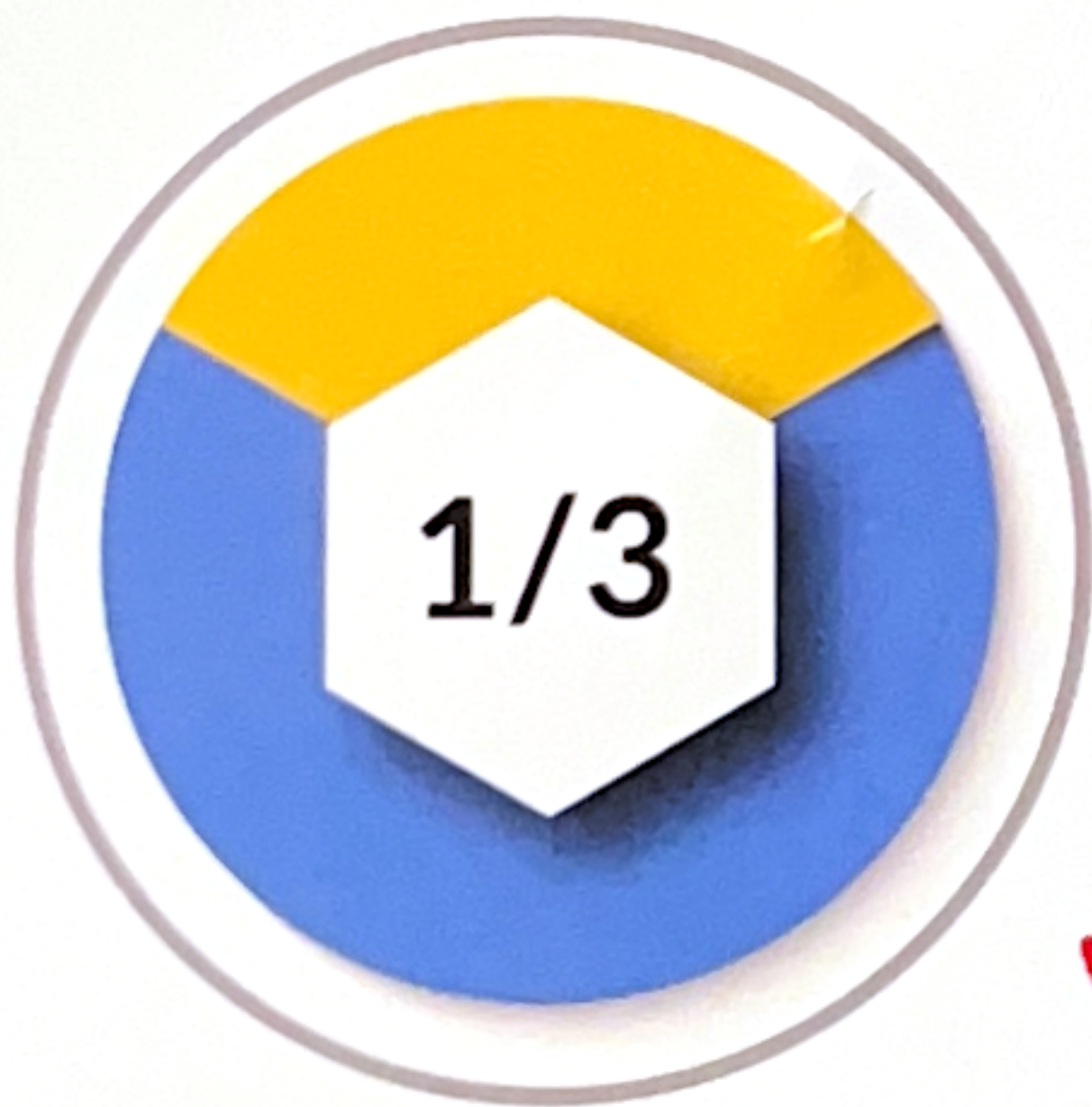
including more than **130**



types of fruits, nuts, and vegetables.

CROP POLINATORS

The agricultural benefit of honey bees as crop pollinators is estimated to be between 10 and 20 times the total value of honey and beeswax



FOOD IN AMERICA

About one-third of the food eaten by Americans comes from crops pollinated by honey bees.

“ West Virginia is one of the first states to establish best management practices for the apiary industry and has adopted labeling and Country of Origin Rules as well. ”

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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