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**What are Agricultural
Economics Ph.D. Students
Learning about
Agribusiness Research
Methods and Subject Areas?**



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THINK CHANGE

WHAT SEEMS LIKE ONLY A RIPPLE TODAY...
CAN BECOME THE WAVE OF THE FUTURE.

Lisa House and James Sterns, Univ. of Florida

presented at the 2002 WCC-72 Meeting in Las Vegas

Ph.D. Interest in Agribusiness



- Number of PhD programs with agribusiness specialization increasing
- Number of Masters programs in agribusiness increasing
- Percent of jobs advertised agribusiness

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Responses from Grad. Coordinators

Program	Written Field Exam in Agribusiness?	Estimated Percent of Total Ph.D. Students taking field	Average Number of Courses Taken in College of Business
Cal., Berkeley	-	New Fall 2002	-
Colorado State	Yes	30	“not usually done”
Florida	Yes	10 to 15	1
Georgia	No	20	4
Illinois	?	10 to 30	Min. of 2, normally 3
Kansas State	No	20	1 to 2
Michigan State	Yes	10 to 20	1 to 2
Missouri	Yes	60	3 to 4
Nebraska	No	10	4 to 5
Ohio State	Yes	10	4 to 6
Purdue	No	33	3
Texas A&M	Yes	40 to 50	3

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AAEA 2001 Jobs

Area of Focus	Approximate # of Positions
Agribusiness Management and Finance	19
Environmental/Resource Economics	11
Trade and Agricultural (commodity) marketing	9
Production/Farm Management	4
Policy	3

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Data

- Informal Surveys
- Graduate Coordinators
 - By telephone and e-mail
- Graduate students and recent grads
 - By a web survey
 - Contacted via e-mail

Survey



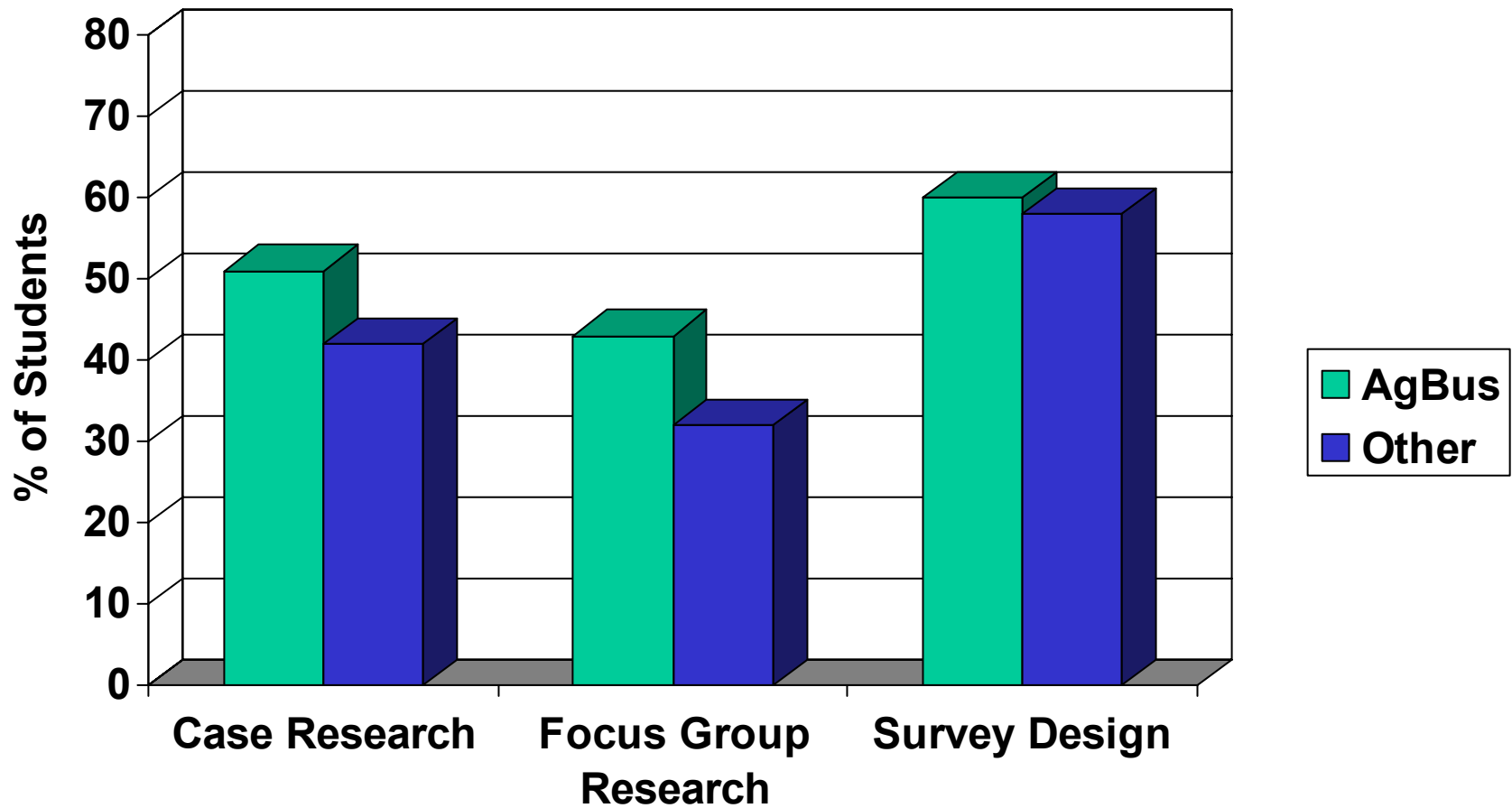
- Are you currently a graduate student
- Where were Ph.D. studies
- Areas of specialization
- # of courses in College of Business (excluding Economics)
- Topics/Subjects learned in:
 - AgEcon Courses
 - Other Courses
 - Research
 - Seminars

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Results

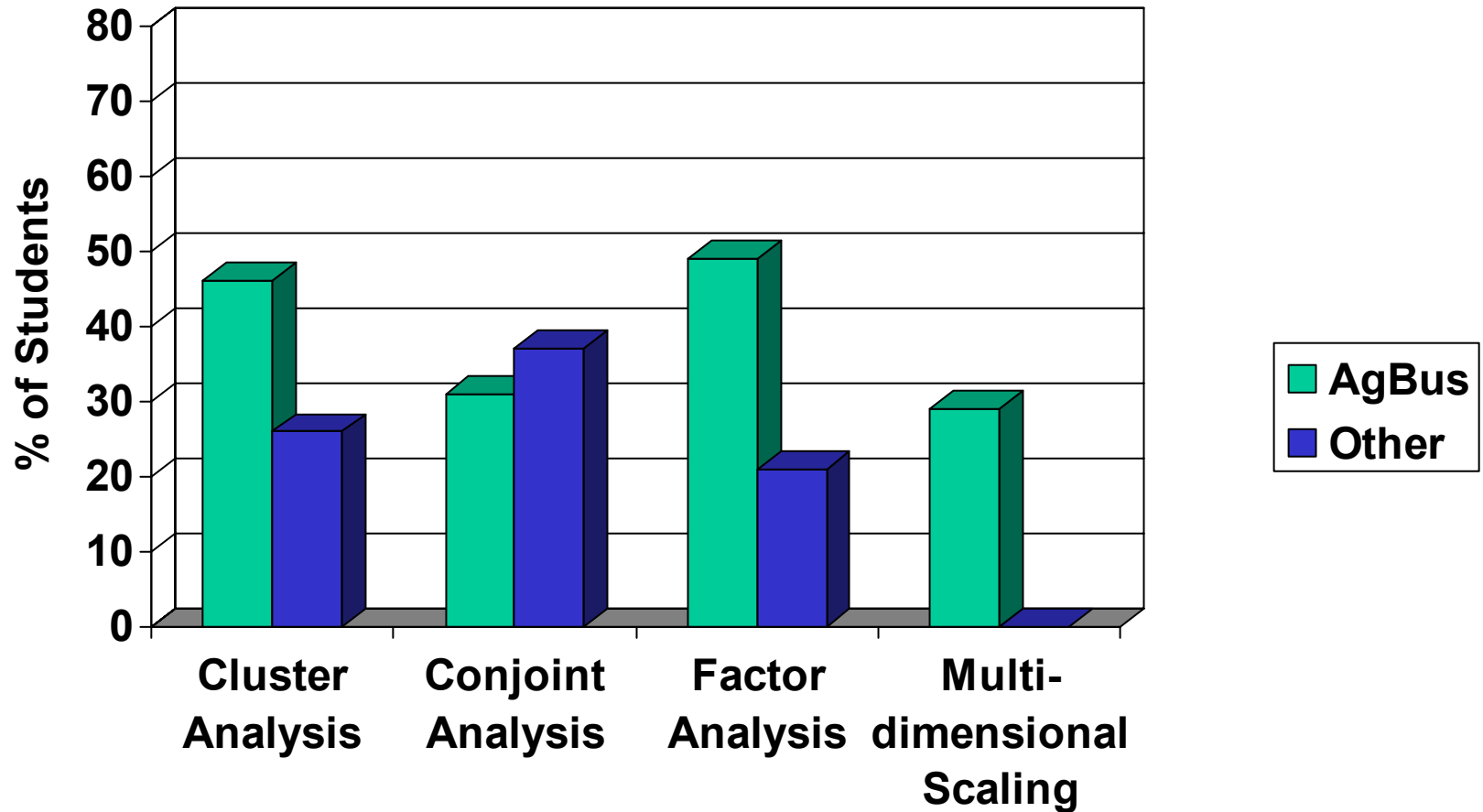
- 53 Respondents
- 20 Schools
- 11 schools with 1 response

Methods Learned



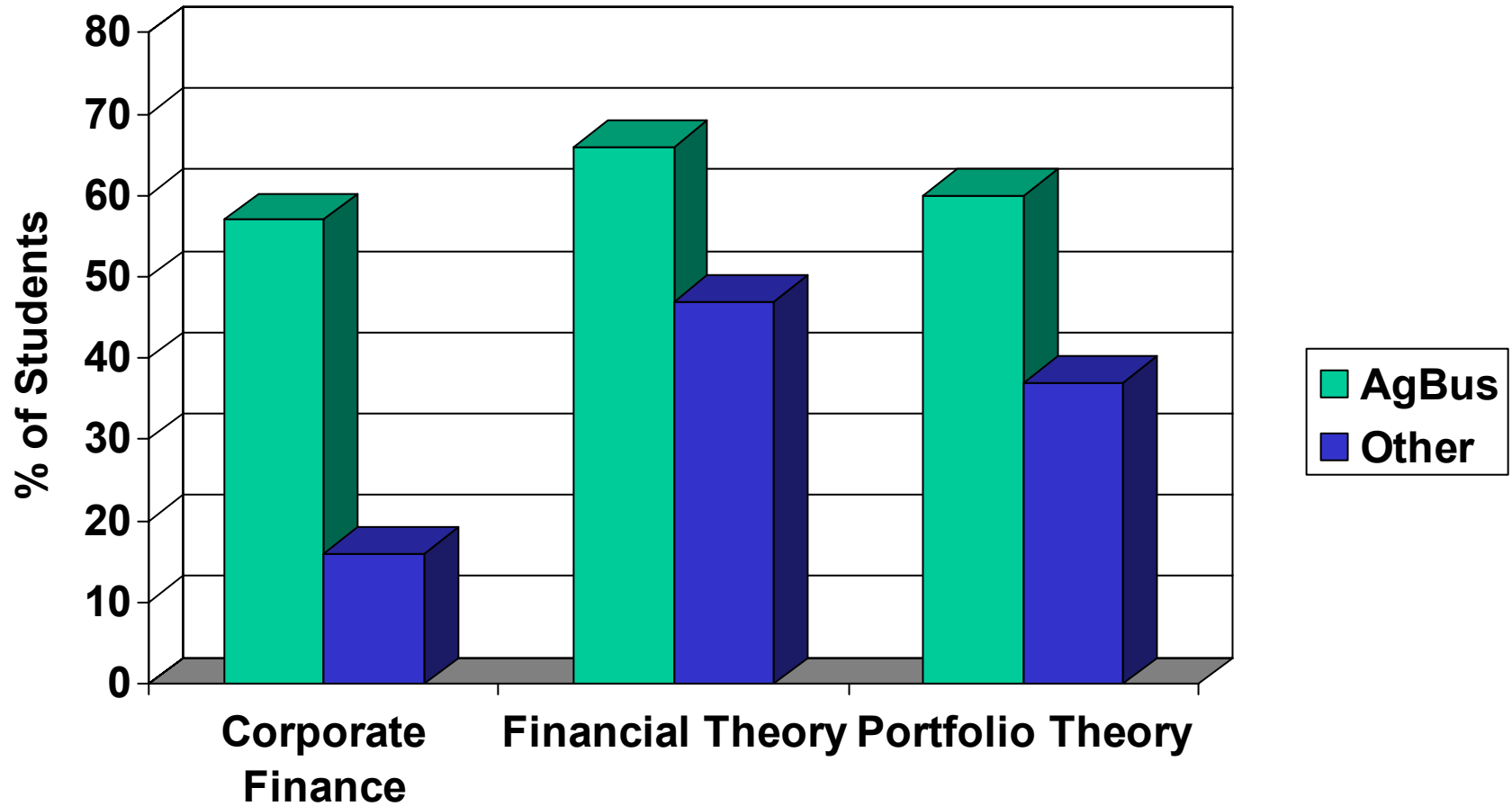
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Methods Learned



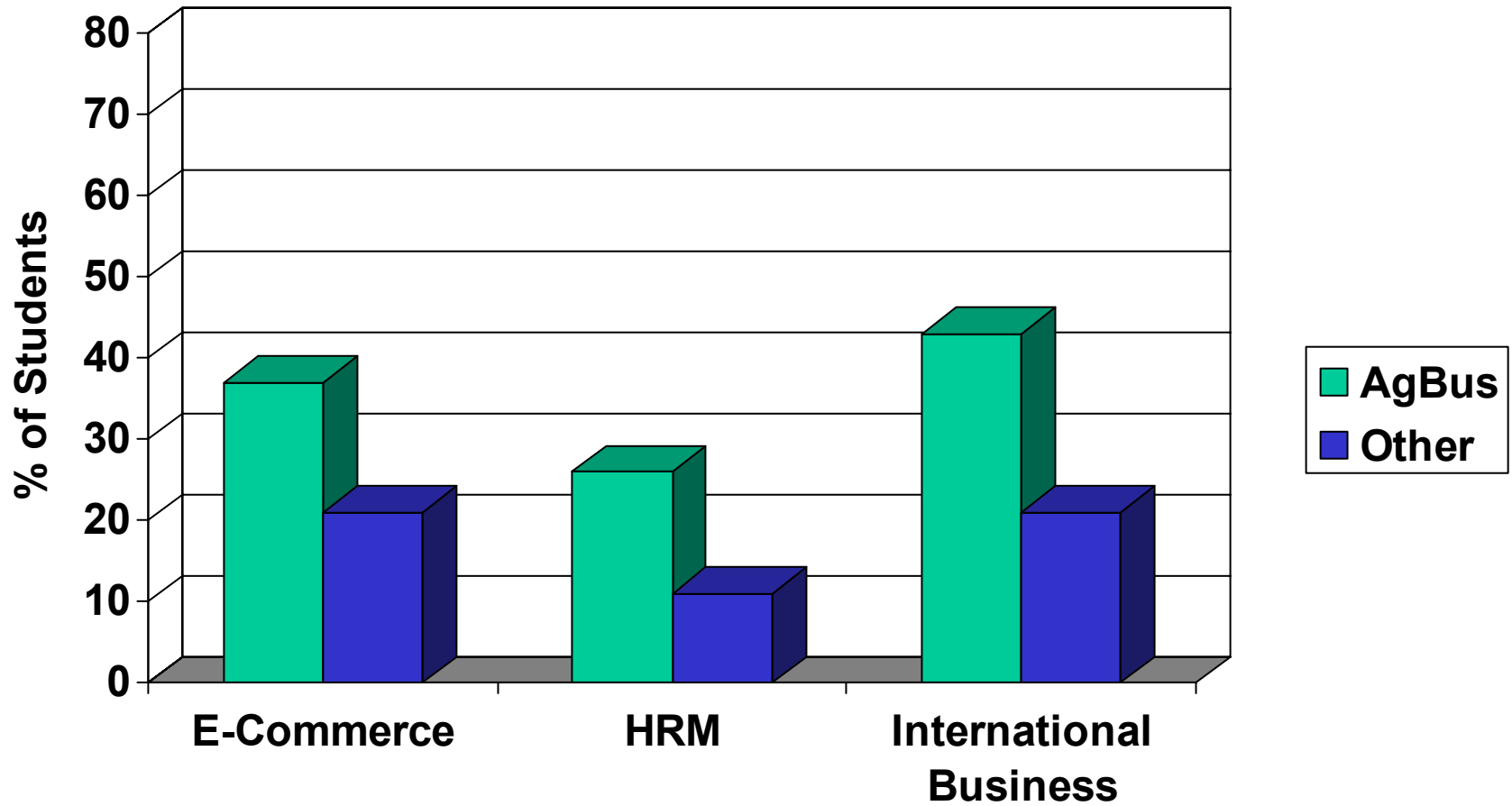
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Methods Learned



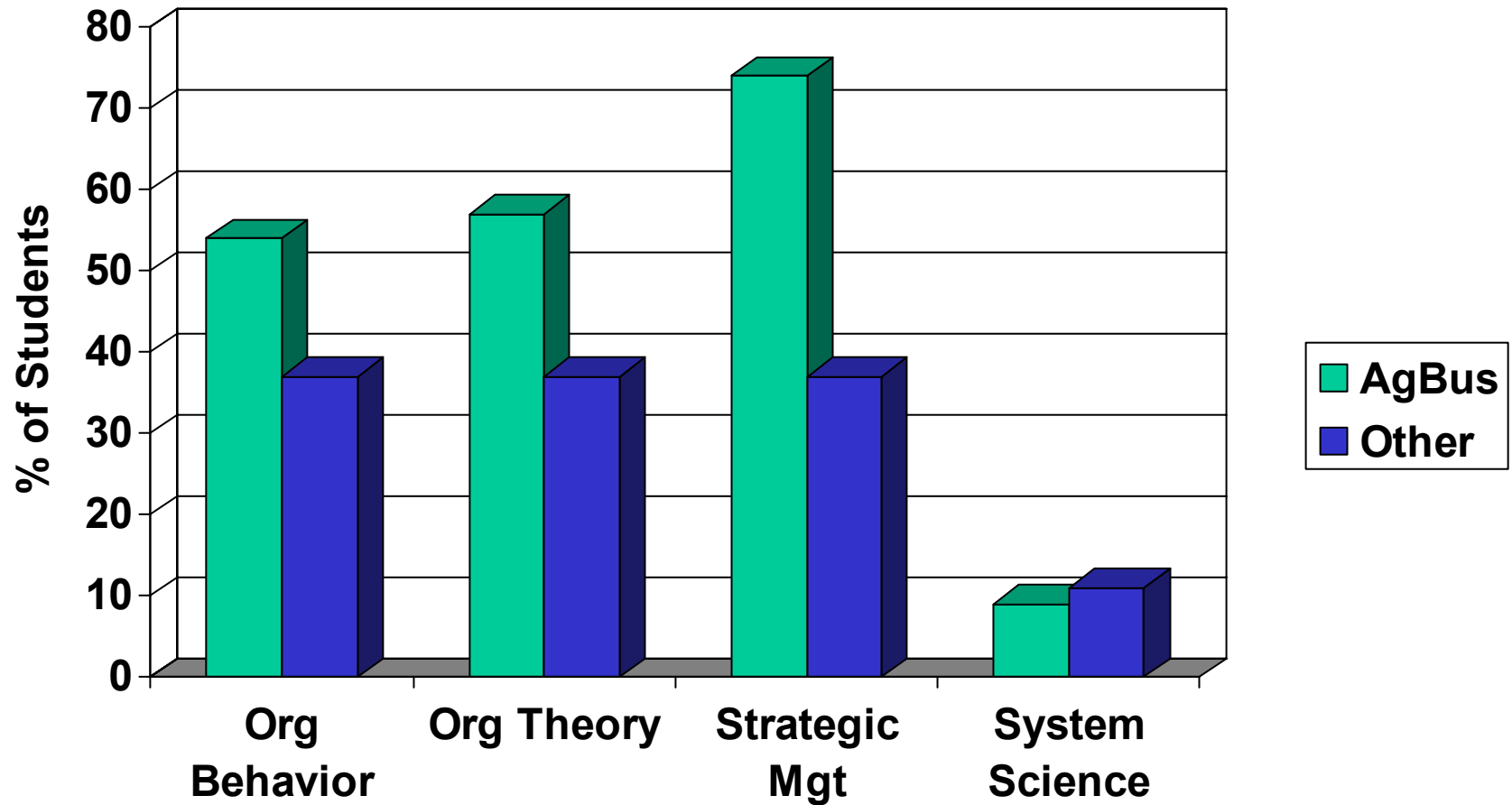
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Methods Learned



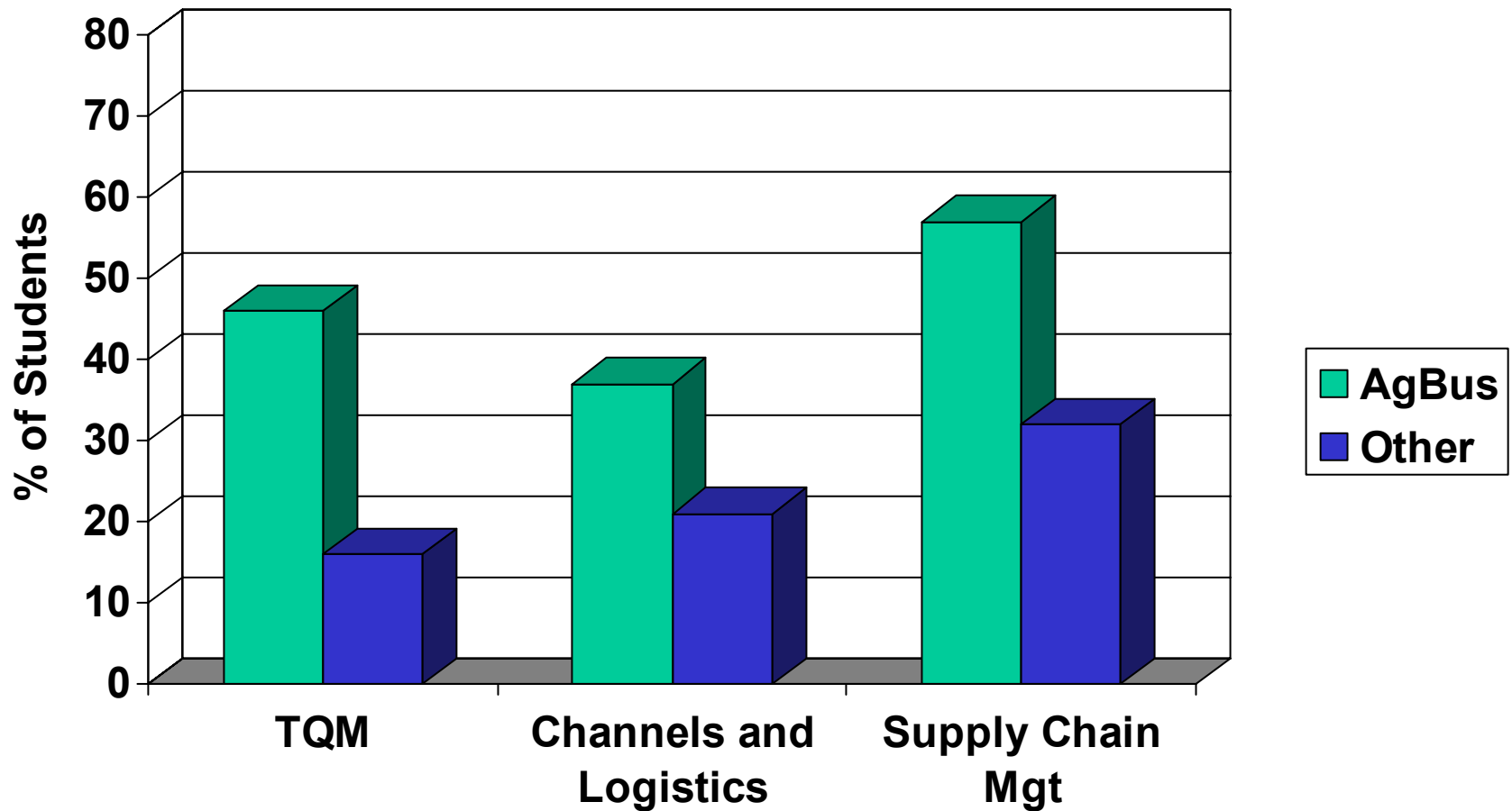
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Methods Learned



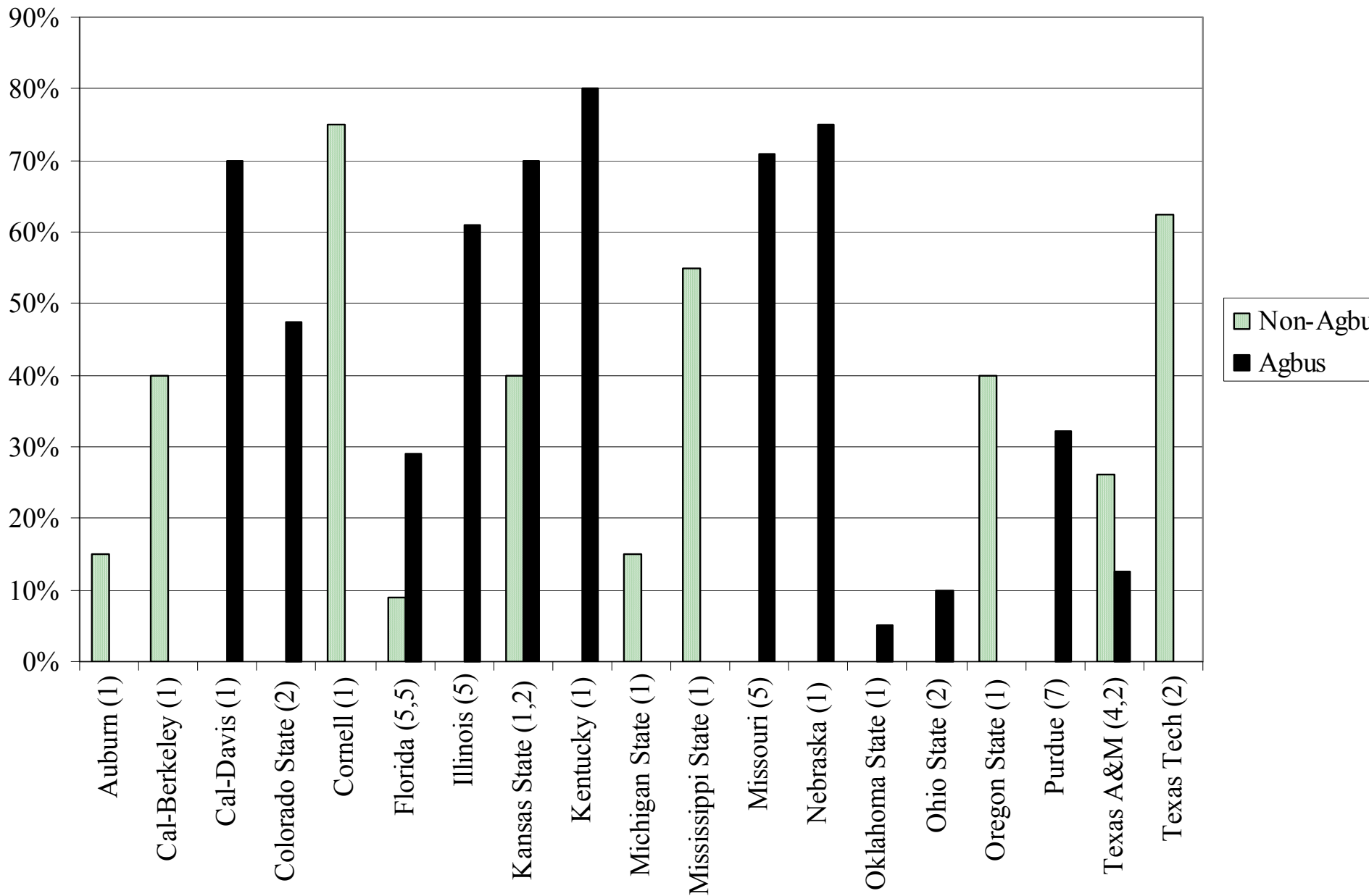
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Methods Learned



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Figure 8. Percent of 20 Agribusiness Topics Covered, by School



“Conclusions”

- Informal Survey
 - Low numbers for some schools
- Variance among schools
- Management and finance topics covered more than marketing
- Human Resources covered mostly in research
- Case “Research”