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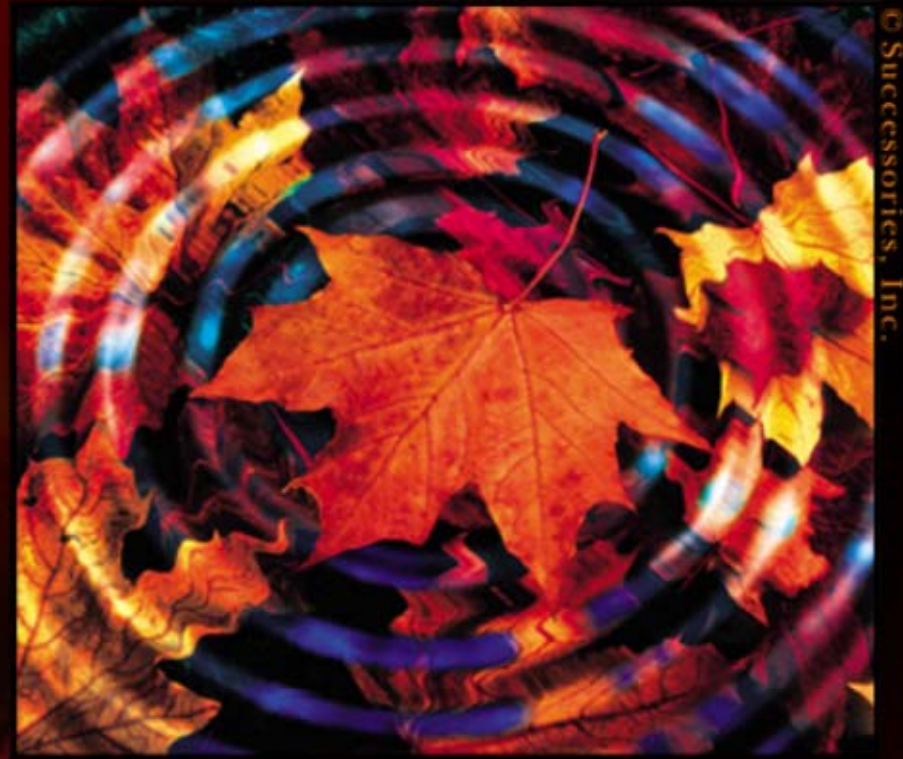
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**What are Agricultural  
Economics Ph.D. Students  
Learning about  
Agribusiness Research  
Methods and Subject Areas?**



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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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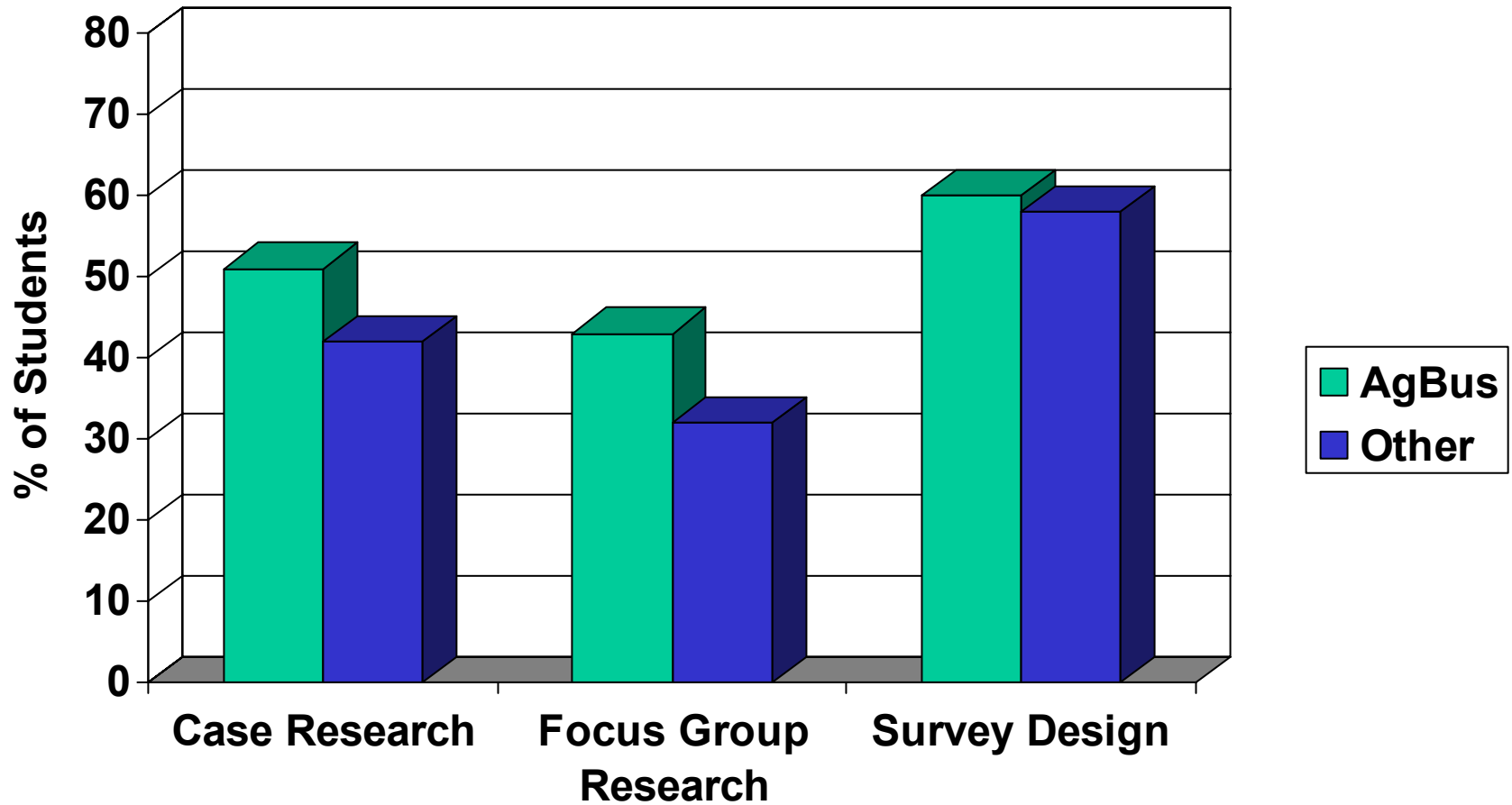
# Results



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

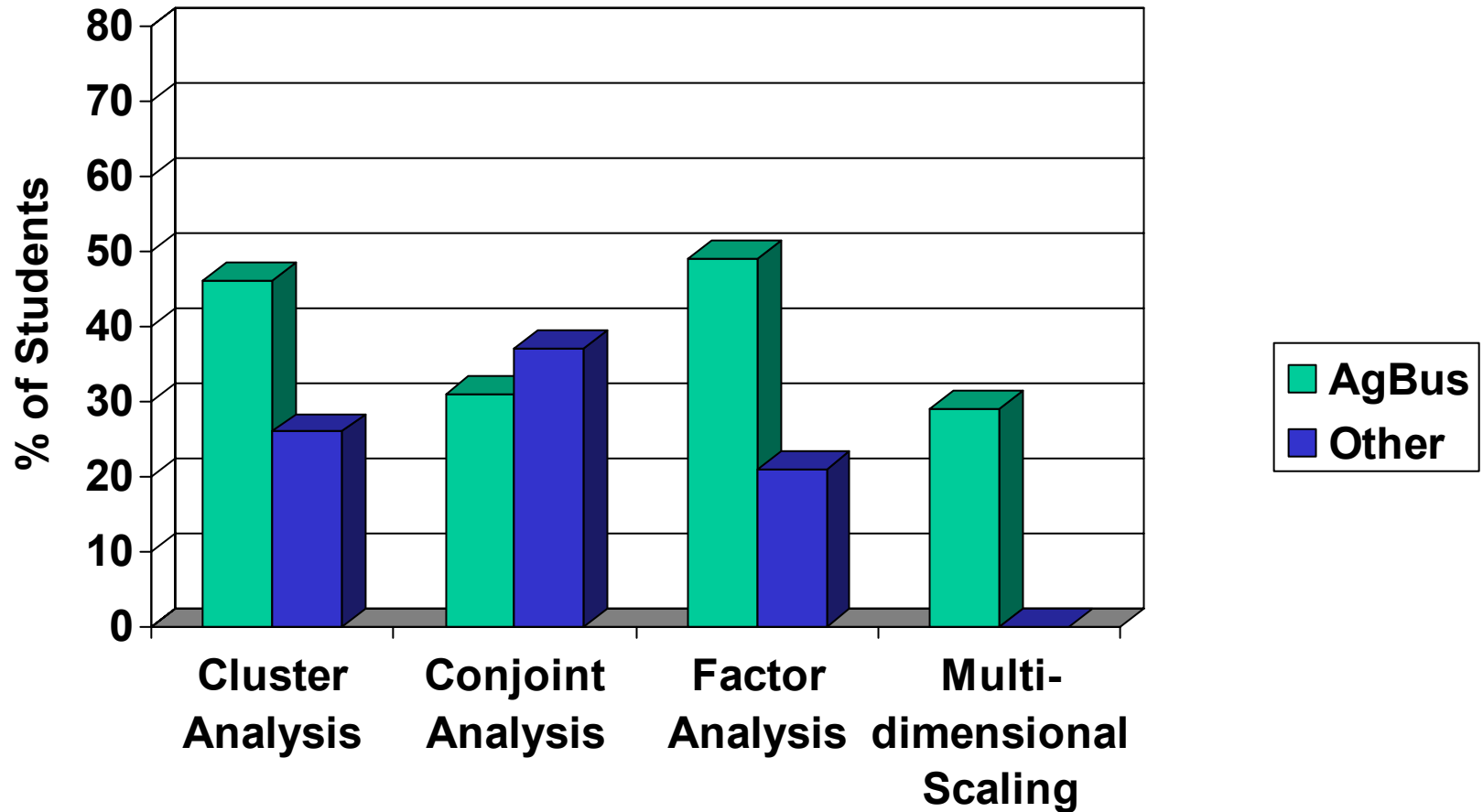


# Methods Learned



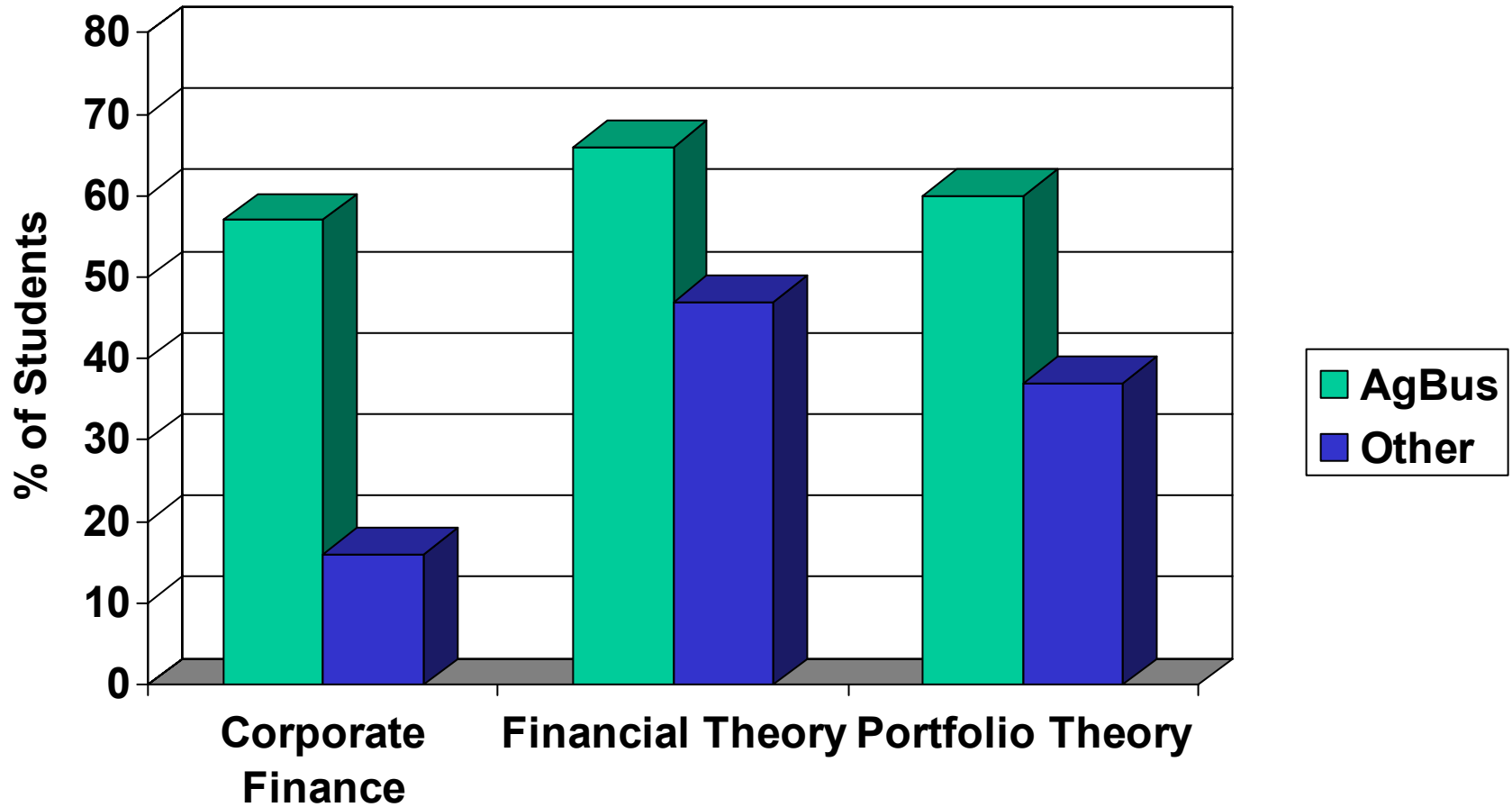
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# Methods Learned



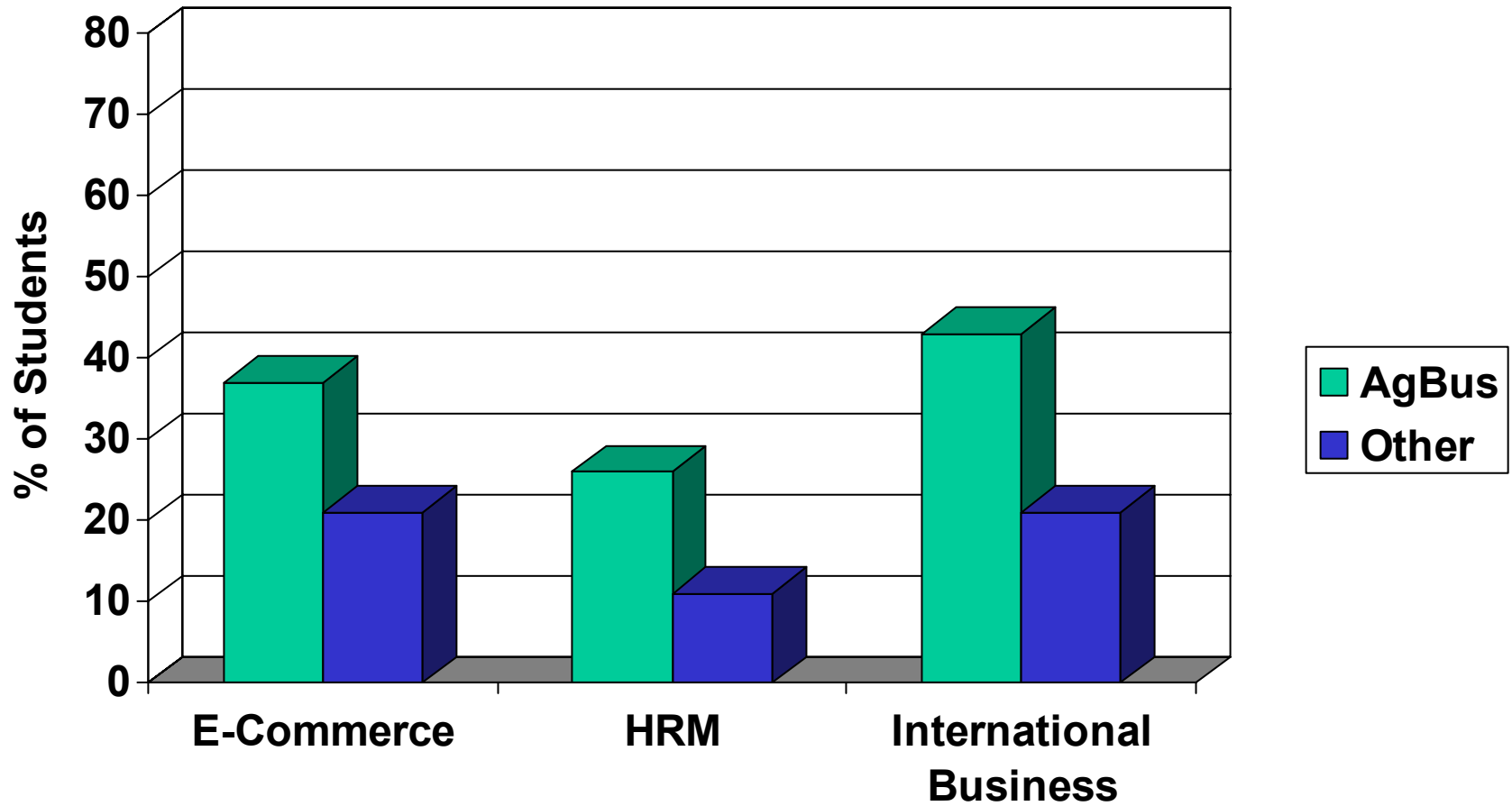
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# Methods Learned



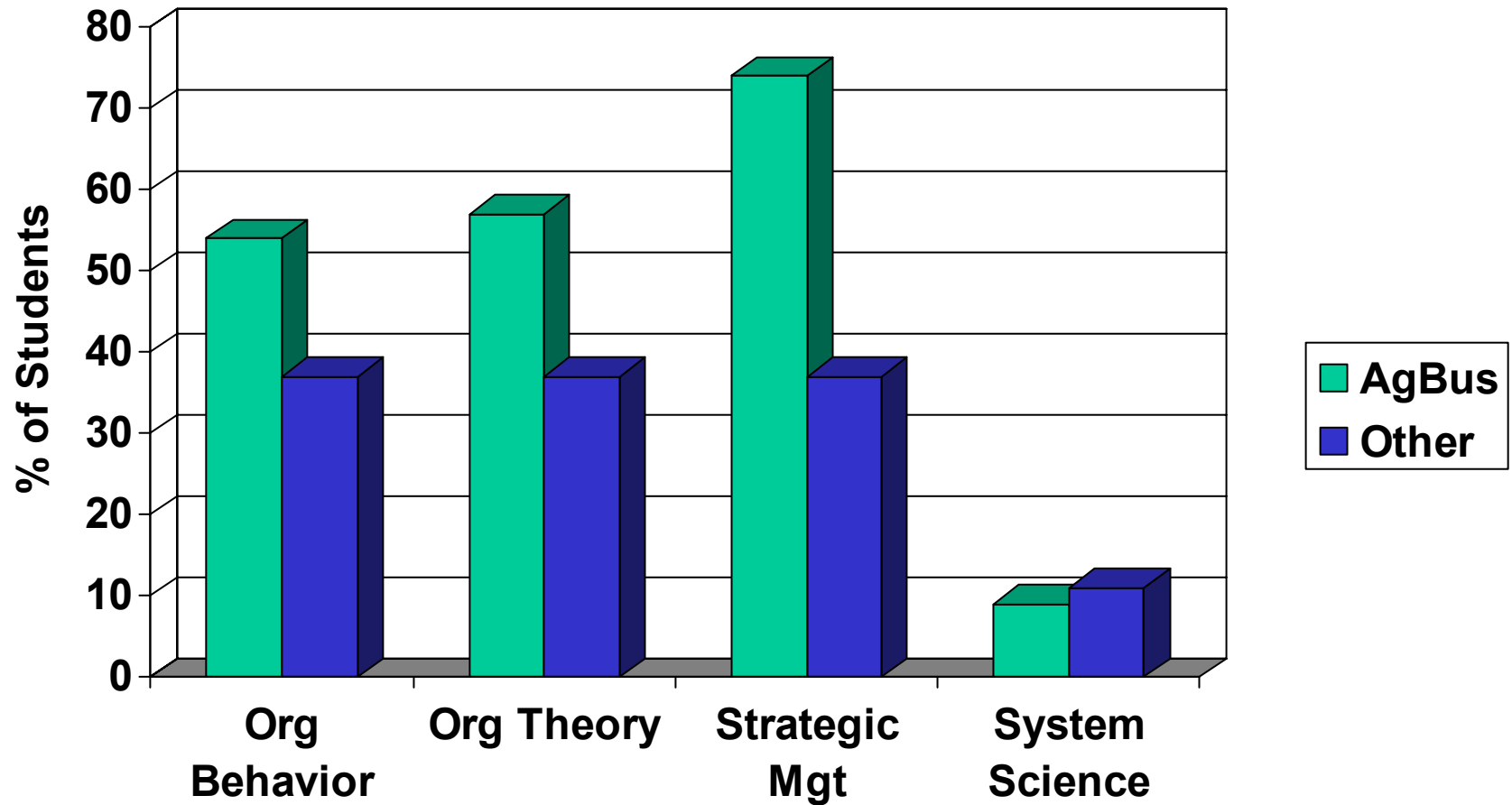
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# Methods Learned



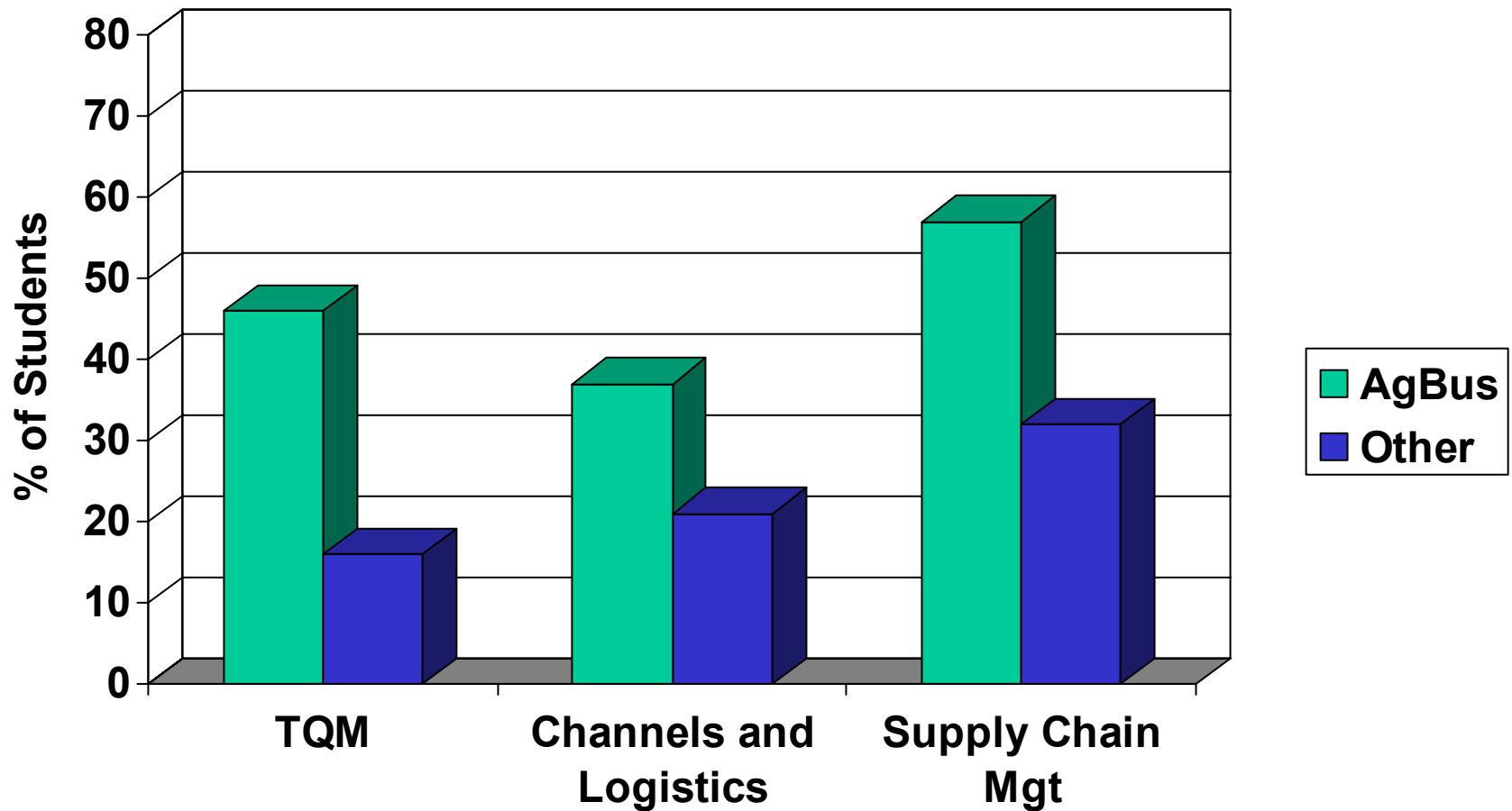
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# Methods Learned



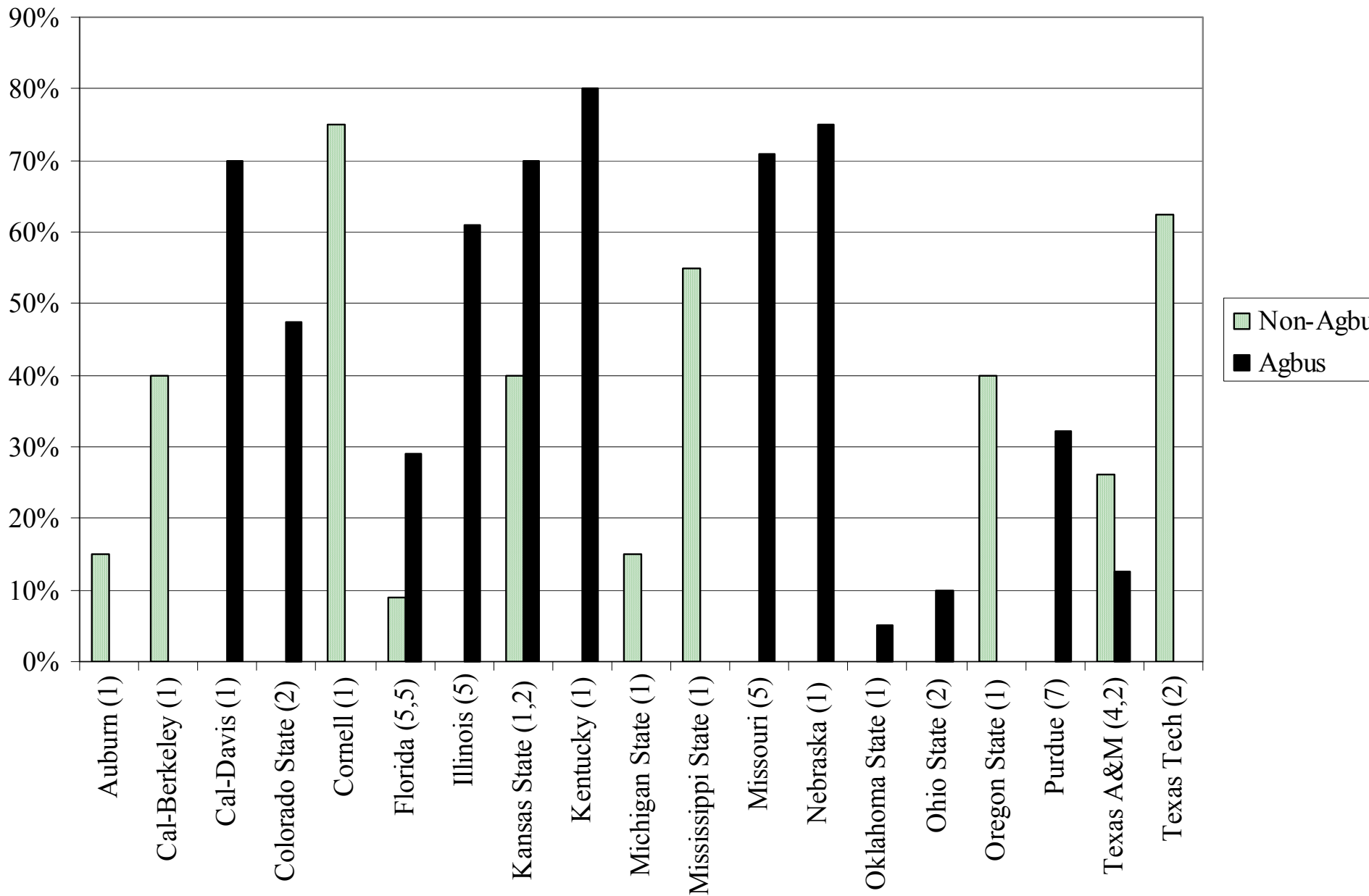
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# Methods Learned



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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”