

Introduction:

Pollinators

This Issue will focus on those self-less buzzy bodies helping us all to survive on this plant. They are the pollinators. If you like to eat 3 meals a day, thank the pollinators for your last meal as one-third of your food is facilitated by the help of a pollinator.

Bees which pollinate plants include European Honey Bee, Blue Orchard Mason Bee, Leafcutter Bee, Bumblebee, and many more.

We can help bees help us by planting pollen and nectar producing annuals and perennials to attract bees to our property and keep them there.

List of Crop Plants Pollinated by Bees

from: <https://honeylove.org/list-of-food/>

While we don't need bees to pollinate every single crop, here is just a brief list of some of the [foods we would lose](#) if all our bees continue to perish:

- Apples
- Mangos
- Rambutan
- Kiwi Fruit
- Plums
- Peaches
- Nectarines
- Guava
- Rose Hips
- Pomegranites
- Pears
- Black and Red Currants
- Alfalfa
- Okra
- Strawberries
- Onions
- Cashews
- Cactus
- Prickly Pear
- Apricots
- Allspice
- Avocados
- Passion Fruit
- Lima Beans
- Kidney Beans
- Adzuki Beans
- Green Beans
- Orchid Plants
- Custard Apples

- Cherries
- Celery
- Coffee
- Walnut
- Cotton
- Lychee
- Flax
- Acerola – used in Vitamin C supplements
- Macadamia Nuts
- Sunflower Oil
- Goa beans
- Lemons
- Buckwheat
- Figs
- Fennel
- Limes
- Quince
- Carrots
- Persimmons
- Palm Oil
- Loquat
- Durian
- Cucumber
- Hazelnut
- Cantaloupe
- Tangelos
- Coriander
- Caraway
- Chestnut
- Watermelon
- Star Apples
- Coconut
- Tangerines
- Boysenberries
- Starfruit
- Brazil Nuts
- Beets
- Mustard Seed
- Rapeseed
- Broccoli
- Cauliflower
- Cabbage
- Brussels Sprouts
- Bok Choy (Chinese Cabbage)
- Turnips
- Congo Beans
- Sword beans
- Chili peppers, red peppers, bell peppers, green peppers
- Papaya
- Safflower
- Sesame
- Eggplant

- Raspberries
- Elderberries
- Blackberries
- Clover
- Tamarind
- Cocoa
- Black Eyed Peas
- Vanilla
- Cranberries
- Tomatoes
- Grapes

If one of your favorites is on this list, you should consider becoming a bee activist.

Some of the crops do not require bees in order to produce vegetables. Carrots, as an example, will grow fine without pollination but you would be hard pressed to produce carrot seed without pollinators, such as the blue bottle fly.

This is my hugelkultur bed that I didn't get planted this year. I covered it to prevent erosion, leaving the North side open to allow bumblebees a place to hibernate over the winter. The North side is the last part to be warmed by the Spring sun so the bees don't emerge too early.



The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation newsletter for October challenges us to "Leave the Leaves" as a place for ground dwelling bees to nest.

"For many gardeners, as the leaves tumble the urge is to rake them away. But here's a reason for more relaxation during this season: Leaving the leaves where they fall will create valuable winter cover for pollinators and other invertebrates."

newsletter@xerces.org

More information on bee hotels can be found at:

https://entomologistlounge.wordpress.com/2017/09/18/insect-hotels-a-refuge-or-a-fad/?utm_content=bufferfd279&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer

The Bumblebee Conservation Trust October newsletter Fact of the Month:

Fact of the Month

Bumblebees see in the ultraviolet light spectrum, and can't see red very well. So they see flowers in a very different way than we do and can actually see markings which act as guides to the nectar.

bumblebeeconservation.org

Summary:

If you are interested in increasing your knowledge and skills or sharing on these subjects of gardening, seed saving, etc., please contact me. Let's get started now so we can be confidently prepared for an unpredictable future. Heavenly Father loves us and will help us to be self-reliant

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Self-Reliance Club Information:

The Tuesday November SRC Meeting will be 14 Nov, 6:30 at the Goodwin Home, 610 N Alpine Road, Rockford.

Topic: Wheat Use Class

How to do many things with whole wheat: cereal, flour, sugar, sprouts, wheat grass juice, meat substitute, etc.

The Saturday November SRC Meeting will be Friday, Nov 24 and Saturday, Nov 25. We will teach you how to can your leftover holiday meat in your home. Please call for an appointment at 815-986-4466. You provide the jars, lids and meat and we will bring the rest.

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We wish you a Happy Thanksgiving Holiday.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Goodwin, Agrarian

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other links:

<http://soil.iopsn.com/>

<http://gssr.gardenofedenresources.com/>

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