

**BEE
SUSTAINABLE**



An Introduction:
Bees 101



Causes & Consequences

Decline of the Bee Population

One of the most significant factors driving the decline of bee populations is the use of pesticides, especially organophosphates, carbamates, and neonicotinoids.

Other causes include habitat loss, climate change, and drought. Between 2018 and 2019, there was about a 40% decline in bee populations. This is a major issue for biodiversity and food production.



BEE PRODUCTS

Honey

In 2019, honey bees made 157 million pounds of honey, valued at over \$339 million.

Bees Wax

Bees wax is used in products like candles, art materials, and cosmetics.

Pollen

Bee pollen contains vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants, making it a nutritious and healthy product.



Plant Pollination & Food Production

Bees spend most of their lives collecting (and spreading) pollen to feed their offspring and to make honey.

About 1/3 of the food eaten by Americans comes from crops pollinated by honey bees, from apples to pumpkins to almonds! Bee pollination accounts for about \$15 billion in added crop value.

Environmental Protection & Biodiversity

Bees have important roles in maintaining biodiversity and providing ecosystem services such as pollination.

The presence and absence of bees are indicators of how well an ecosystem is doing, and for that reason bees are considered keystone species.



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