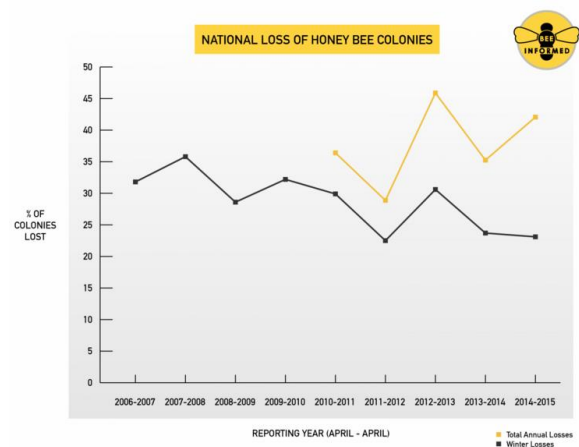


Disappearing Honeybee

The Honey Bee- interesting facts

- 1 hive may have 60,000 individuals
- Honey bees have foraging adults throughout the flowering season
- Some vegetables require 12 visits/ flower to set fruit.
- Honey bees can fly at speeds of up to 15 miles per hour.
- A single honeybee worker produces about 1/12th teaspoon honey in her lifetime



You can check disappearing honeybee vocabulary before reading.

Do you run away when you hear a bee buzzing? Many people do. A bee sting hurts and some people are **allergic** to bee **venom**. But did you know that bees are very important to humans? Honeybees do more than just make honey. They fly around and **pollinate** flowers, plants, and trees. Our fruits, nuts, and vegetables rely on these **pollinators**. One third of America's food supply is pollinated by the honeybee.

Have you seen or heard a honeybee lately? Bees are mysteriously **disappearing** in many parts of the world. Most people don't know about this problem. It is called **Colony Collapse Disorder** (CCD). Some North American **beekeepers** lost 80% of their **hives** between 2006 and 2008. Bees in Italy and Australia are disappearing too.

The disappearance of the honeybee is a serious problem. Can you imagine never eating another apple or strawberry? What about almonds and cherries? Without honeybees food prices will **skyrocket**. The poorest people always **suffer** the worst when there is a **lack** of food.

This problem affects other foods besides fresh produce. Imagine losing your favourite ice cream! Häagen Dazs is a famous ice cream company. Many of their **flavours** rely on the hard working honey bee. In 2008, Häagen Dazs began raising money for CCD. They also funded a garden at the University of California called The Haven. This garden helps **raise awareness** about the disappearing honeybee and teaches visitors how to plant for pollinators.

Donating money to research is the most important thing humans can do to save the honeybees. Scientists need money to **investigate** the causes of Colony Collapse Disorder. Some scientists blame CCD on **climate change**. Others think pesticides are killing the bees. Commercial bee migration may also cause CCD. Beekeepers **transport** their hives from place to place in order to pollinate plants year round.

Not everyone has money to donate regularly. There are other ways to help the honeybee. **Spread the word** by telling your friends and family about the problem. Tell your teacher about the disappearing bees too. Maybe your class can write a letter to the government.

Disappearing Honeybee Vocabulary

Word	Meaning
Colony Collapse Disorder	AT: eine Form des Bienensterbens BG: Синдром на разрушената пчелна колония CZ: syndrom zhroucení včelstev HU: elnéptelenedés szindróma RO: sindromul colapsului coloniilor SK: Syndróm kolapsu včelstiev SL: sindrom propada čebeljih družin
allergic <i>adjective</i>	caused by an allergy (the body's reaction against certain foods or substances that it thinks are poisonous)
venom <i>noun</i>	toxic material (a kind of poison) produced by bees,
pollinate <i>verb</i>	the transfer of the male parts of the flower to the female parts of the flower; ensures plant reproduction
climate change <i>noun</i>	the gradual (slow) increase of temperature on earth
collapse <i>noun (also verb)</i>	the falling apart of something
disappearing <i>adjective (also verb)</i>	no longer able to be found or be seen
disorder <i>noun</i>	a problem or disease that a certain group faces
donate <i>verb</i>	give money or resources to a group or person in need
hive <i>noun</i>	the place where honeybees live
investigate <i>verb</i>	study; research; try to find the truth
lack <i>noun</i>	not enough of something

Word	Meaning
flavour <i>noun</i>	taste
raise awareness	make people understand problems
mysteriously <i>adverb</i>	in a way that is not easily understood
pollinate <i>verb</i>	the transfer of the male parts of the flower to the female parts of the flower; ensures plant reproduction
rely on <i>verb</i>	depend on; need
skyrocket <i>verb</i>	go up very high in a short amount of time
spread the word <i>verb</i>	tell other people something
transport <i>verb</i>	move from place to place
ripple effect	effects one after another, like waves of water



Vocabulary Quiz

Circle the correct word:

1. When something collapses it ***disappears / falls apart / shrinks / spreads***.
2. The place where a honeybee lives is called a ***shovel / hair / hive / husk***.
3. Another word for "rely on" is ***work on / depend on / spread / keep***.
4. We need bees to ***transport / investigate / pollinate / poison*** the plants that we eat.
5. There is a ***donation / lack / skyrocket / allergy*** of honeybees in North America.

Reading Comprehension Quiz

Circle the correct answers:

1. According to the article, the disappearance of honeybees is called
bee cooperation disorder / colony collapse disorder / hive transport disease / allergic bee collapse.
2. Humans rely on honeybees
to poison weeds / to spray plants / to pollinate plants / to fertilize plants.
3. According to the article, which famous company is very worried about CCD?
Coca-Cola / Microsoft / Häagen Dazs / Nike
4. What is the most important thing people can do to help honeybees?
give money to research / stop killing bees / eat more berries / eat less honey
5. Moving honeybees from place to place is called
commercial bee migration / pollination donation / CCD transportation / spreading the word.

Disappearing Honeybee Discussion

Topics for discussions and essay-writing

1. Why is the honeybee so important to humans?
2. Do you think humans can survive without honeybees?
3. Do you think scientists will invent mechanical pollinators that work as hard as honeybees?
4. Which companies need to worry about CCD the most?
5. Scientists fear that the disappearing honeybee will have a "ripple effect". What does this mean?

<https://www.englishclub.com/reading/environment/honeybee-reading.htm>

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