

Honeybees are disappearing!

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When we think of a honeybee we usually think of yellow with black stripes and a stinger. We hardly think of the plight of these creatures and we almost never view them as the victim. In reality, these honeybees, which are the most efficient pollinators of crops, have become the victim of such threats as habitat loss, degradation, pesticide use and various pathogens.

In fact, the European honeybees (*Apis mellifera*) are declining throughout the U.S. and other parts of the world. The phenomenon known as "Colony Collapse Disorder" (CCD), is a situation whereby worker bees from a colony disappear abandoning the hive, the queen and immature bees.

There is no specific factor known to cause CCD, but a combination of threats to honeybees include: Weakened immune systems by exposure to pesticides, pathogens, and mites.

Please view the following video to understand this crisis, and visit the following websites to find out how you can help:

www.davidsuzuki.org

www.pollinationcanada.ca