

Lesson 7

Protecting Pollinators in Home Lawns and Landscapes

Read the Purdue University extension publication entitled *Protecting Pollinators in Home Lawns and Landscapes*, available for download at <https://extension.entm.purdue.edu/publications/POL-1/POL-1.pdf>. Complete the following questions while you read the publication.

1. What are the four main stresses that are reducing the numbers of honey bees (and other pollinators)?
2. What are **systemic** pesticides?
3. Study Figure 2 at the bottom of page 2 of the publication. A flowering plant may contain pollen grains that are covered with pesticide, even if that flowering plant had not been sprayed directly. Describe a possible way that the plant may have been contaminated.
4. Again, study Figure 2 at the bottom of page 2 of the publication. How could a worker bee in a hive (one that has never left the hive) become sickened by pesticides?

5. One strategy in **Integrated Pest Management (IPM)** is to use biological controls. Biological control means encouraging the growth and survival of beneficial insects (which sadly, can be killed by indiscriminate use of insecticides). Some of these beneficial insects will eat the insect pests that people would normally want to spray for. Using the free download app entitled *Purdue Perennial Doctor*, find and list five different beneficial insects that eat plant insect pests. Then do a google search to list a plant insect pest that is eaten by each beneficial insect.

Beneficial Insect	Insect Pest Preyed Upon

6. Sometimes it is not possible to completely avoid the use of insecticides. List and describe four common sense IPM practices that a homeowner could use to protect pollinators.