Jan. 5, 2018

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**Pollinator News**

The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation Opens Final Year of GRO1000 Grassroots Grants to Benefit Communities Through Gardens

Program to Culminate Having Supported 1,000 Gardens and Greenspaces, Honoring Company’s 150th Anniversary

MARYSVILLE, Ohio (January 2, 2018) – Today, The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation announced the opening of the GRO1000 Grassroots Grants award program, inviting nonprofit organizations from across the country to apply for funds to improve their communities. The Grassroots Grants program, now in its eighth and final year, provides support to not-for-profit organizations to better their neighborhoods through the development of community gardens and greenspaces.

**READ MORE and Learn How to Apply for a Grant**

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**Vandals destroy 50 beehives in Iowa, killing at least 500,000 bees**

Sioux City, Iowa -- The future of a honey business in Sioux Falls, Iowa, is uncertain after vandals destroyed dozens of their beehives, CBS affiliate KMEG reports. The owners of Wild Hill Honey said they discovered that 50 beehives were destroyed when they went to clear off snow on Thursday. **READ MORE**

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**EPA Releases Neonicotinoid Assessments for Public Comment**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is releasing preliminary ecological and human health risk assessments for these neonicotinoid insecticides -- clothianidin, thiamethoxam, and dinotefuran -- and a preliminary ecological risk assessment for imidacloprid, assessing risks to birds, mammals, non-target insects, and plants. **READ more at**
https://www.epa.gov/pesticides/epa-releases-neonicotinoid-assessments-public-comment

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**See us at**
American Beekeeping Federation Conf.
Jan. 9-13, 2018
Indiana Bee School
Feb. 24, 2018

**Keep the Hives Alive**
How Sustainable Agriculture Can Solve the Bee Crisis

**Presentation Available**
Research

Fungicides can reduce, hinder pollination potential of honey bees  http://www.westernfarmpress.com/fungicides-can-reduce-hinder-pollination-potential-honey-bees

Almond-Crop Fungicides a Threat to Honey Bees; Commonly used fungicides linked to increased mortality in key almond pollinators http://www.entsoc.org/almond-crop-fungicides-threat-honey-bees

Researchers Link Fungicides, Bumblebee Decline http://www.umass.edu/newsoffice/article/researchers-link-fungicides-bumblebee

How to pronounce fungicide https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/pronunciation/english/fungicide

Plant your own pollinator habitat!

http://www.ohioprairienursery.com/?ref=pollisteco

http://www.bbbseed.com/articles/plant-for-pollinators-project/

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South Dakota Beekeepers Assn.
Bret Adee
Indian Run Apiary
California Apiaries, LLC
Harmony Honey Co.
Red-Headed Honey  https://redheadedhoney.com/
Sunrise Feed & Supply  http://sunsrisefeed.com/
Kentucky State Beekeepers Association http://www.ksbabekeeping.org/
Los Angeles County Beekeepers Assn. http://www.la county beekeepers.com/
The Studio Digital http://www.thestudiodigital.com/
Beekeeping Insurance Services http://www.beekeepingins.com/
Cox Honey of Utah
Michigan Commercial Beekeepers Assn.

Pollinator Stewardship Council
www.pollinatorstewardship.org

We are member supported!
The Pollinator Stewardship Council is a 501c3 nonprofit organization; donations are tax deductible.
Beekeepers Working for Beekeepers

The Board and Program Director are all beekeepers. We work to:

- **Raise awareness about the adverse impact of pesticides on pollinators critical to the supply of food and the ecosystem.**
- **Provide advocacy, guidance, and tools to document the detrimental effect of pesticides on pollinators.**
- **Affect regulatory processes of pesticide risk assessment, label, and enforcement.**
MARYSVILLE, Ohio (January 2, 2018) – Today, The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation announced the opening of the GRO1000 Grassroots Grants award program, inviting nonprofit organizations from across the country to apply for funds to improve their communities. The Grassroots Grants program, now in its eighth and final year, provides support to not-for-profit organizations to better their neighborhoods through the development of community gardens and greenspaces.

The GRO1000 program will have funded the creation or enhancement of 1,000 community greenscapes in every state in the U.S. by spring 2018. The program was originally developed to celebrate The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company’s 150th anniversary, which is this year.

“It has been a great honor to improve hundreds of neighborhoods and thousands of lives through the development of these community gardens and greenspaces,” said Jim King, president and chairman of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation. “The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation looks forward to continuing its mission to connect people with the life-enhancing benefits of gardens.”

From edible gardens to pollinator habitats, urban farms to sensory gardens, GRO1000 supports all types of community-driven greenspace projects and places priority on programs that significantly benefit youth. To date, the GRO1000 program has helped fund more than 12.7 million square feet of revitalized greenspace and 14,400 new garden beds. GRO1000 gardens are donating an estimated 560,000 pounds, or 2.9 million meals, of produce annually, and have helped connect more than 205,000 youth across America to meaningful experiences with nature.

The 2018 GRO1000 Grassroots Grants application is available online now at www.GRO1000.com. The deadline for application submission is February 19, 2018, at 11:59 p.m. EST. Grants range from $500 to $1,500 and are awarded based on youth engagement, community impact, harvest donation, and sustainability, among other factors. Winners will be announced on the first day of spring, March 20, 2018.

In the coming weeks, The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation will announce plans for its milestone 1,000th garden dedication and its continued work to support communities through the development of gardens and greenspaces. More information on the GRO1000 program can be found at www.GRO1000.com.
EPA Releases Neonicotinoid Assessments for Public Comment

December 15, 2017

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is releasing preliminary ecological and human health risk assessments for these neonicotinoid insecticides -- clothianidin, thiamethoxam, and dinotefuran -- and a preliminary ecological risk assessment for imidacloprid, assessing risks to birds, mammals, non-target insects, and plants. Preliminary pollinator-only risk assessments for these chemicals were published for comment in 2016 and 2017, and preliminary human health and ecological assessments (for aquatic species only) for imidacloprid were also released in 2017.

The Agency is also releasing new cotton and citrus benefits assessments for foliar applications of the neonicotinoids as well as its response to public comments on the 2014 Benefits of Neonicotinoid Seed Treatment to Soybean Production.

These documents are all being made available in the dockets in advance of the forthcoming Federal Register Notice that will open the public comment period.

Once the comment period opens, EPA is especially interested in public comment on the benefits for cotton and citrus, since previous assessments identified potential risks to pollinators. We believe early input from the public will be helpful in developing possible mitigation options that may be needed to address risks to bees. Among the benefits identified, the neonicotinoids were found to be critical for management of Asian citrus psyllid -- which causes citrus greening, a devastating pest for citrus growers, and for control of plant bugs and stink bugs in cotton.

The Agency encourages stakeholders and interested members of the public to provide comments on these assessments in the dockets linked below. The comment period begins when the Federal Register notice is published and will be open for 60 days. EPA may revise the assessments based on information and comments received. The Agency plans to release the final pollinator risk assessments and proposed interim decisions for these chemicals in mid-2018.

Imidacloprid registration review docket EPA-HQ-OPP-2008-0844

Clothianidin registration review docket EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0865

Thiamethoxam registration review docket EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0581

Dinotefuran registration review docket EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0920
Become a member [http://pollinatorstewardship.org/?page_id=3603](http://pollinatorstewardship.org/?page_id=3603)


Need a speaker for your bee club, State beekeeping conference, community group?

The Pollinator Stewardship Council offers 13 topics addressing the health crisis of honey bees, the impact of pesticides upon pollinators, beekeeping association management and strategic planning.


Plant your own pollinator habitat!

Pollinator Stewardship Council has partnered with Ohio Prairie Nursery in support of pollinator habitat. *You can get native seeds for eastern U.S. planting zones here.* Select “Support our Cause” ([http://www.ohioprairienursery.com/?ref=pollsteco](http://www.ohioprairienursery.com/?ref=pollsteco)) to view featured seed selections to benefit pollinators. A portion of sales generated from our website will help support our work.

Seeds for honey bees WEST of the Mississippi

To increase plant biodiversity, improve gardens yields, and make a positive difference for the future, plant for pollinators WEST of the Mississippi with bbbseed. The Plant for Pollinators Project, developed by bbbseed, offers a discount on their pollinator mixes. Go to their website, find and enter the discount code, and Plant For Pollinators! [https://www.bbbseed.com/articles/plant-for-pollinators-project/](https://www.bbbseed.com/articles/plant-for-pollinators-project/)

Betterbee Has Seeds for Pollinator Habitat

Betterbee offers a variety of seed mixes for beekeepers to plant. You can find pollinator forage seed mix varieties at their [website](http://pollinatorstewardship.org/?page_id=3603).
We are member supported! The Pollinator Stewardship Council is a nonprofit organization; donations are tax deductible.

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Akron, OH 44313

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