



BLOOMING
ADVANTAGE

Neonicotinoid Free!

Honeybees and other pollinators are under siege from numerous threats that we are only beginning to understand. Below are some key factors believed to be responsible for the decline in Honeybee colonies

1. Respiratory Mites
2. Parasites
3. Bacterial Infections
4. Loss of habitat due to urban/suburban sprawl
5. Colony Collapse Disorder
6. Other factors not yet identified

While we can't help with the first 3 issues at this point, we can do something about #3 and #4

Plant "Pollinator Host Plants" throughout your garden, and when possible, reduce your turf grass, which can be a wasteland for pollinators. Need help choosing the right Pollinator Host Plant for you or your region? Please ask us for suggestions, visit our website's "Plant Finder" page, or peruse the lists of bird and insect pollinator host plants in the Blooming Advantage Design Guide, starting on page 48.

While we don't fully understand yet what causes Colony Collapse Disorder, it's decimating our populations of honeybees. Recently a class of systemic chemical pesticides (staying in the plant and soil for a long period) known as "Neonicotinoids" have come under scrutiny as potentially contributing to Colony Collapse Disorder; if not through direct contamination then perhaps through weakening of bees and causing them to be susceptible to other risks such as #1, #2, and #3 above.

In view of recent suspicions and findings, we have suspended use of these chemicals indefinitely. You can be assured that plants grown by Blooming Nursery, Blooming Junction, and GreenFeathers have not been exposed to these chemical sprays.

For more information on Honeybees and CCD, please visit <http://www.beesfree.biz>