



### **Bees answer:**

**-Noi abbiamo paura di venire uccise da pesticidi e sostanze chimiche.**

**-Pensiamo che certe abitazioni create da noi per l'uomo siano fatte male e non adatte a noi.**

**-Secondo noi è un veleno inutile creato per ucciderci :(**

**-Sono di aiuto per noi perchè ci aiutano a fare miele.**

**-La scuola ci sta aiutando molto a fare il miele ed è una buona idea**

**-Sono utili perchè sono aree non inquinate dove noi possiamo vivere.**





Video che parla di problemi delle api:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qCUQa-sylpQ>

Hello i am Ioanna, a bee from Petroupoli, and i agree with my italian friend but i want to be more specific. So, let's take it from the beginning as you ask many questions

My society is afraid of people that want to hurt us or african killer bees that are going to attack our hive. Also bee hunters are dangerous sometimes though they try to take care of us because they use certain amounts of smoke to our hives and that does more harm than good. Sure, we do have a way to defend and as you know bees do sting but we do it if we are threatened by some outside factor like a person or an animal and we have to

protect the hive and the queen bee. A very serious reason should exist as if a bee stings then it dies.

We are very very much afraid of chemical pesticides of high toxicity which are used in industrial crops and we can not use our stings to be protected from that. These very dangerous pesticides, including neonicotinoids, have the capacity to circulate in all parts of the plant. We, the bees, hire them from pollen and nectar, which damages our nervous system and often leads us to death. The growing number of monocultures promoted by industrial agriculture, which have led to the reduction of biodiversity and the destruction of a variety of ecosystems.

Also, monocultures pose a great risk because as people need variety of food to survive, bees to survive should be fed by a large variety of flowering plants. The International Union for the Protection of Nature (IUCN) estimates that another 20,000 flowering plants will disappear over the next decades. This affects us that we live in hives and even more our sisters, solitaire bees who need undisturbed habitats to build their nests.

Let's discuss another topic. Pollination, the fertilization of the flower to become fruit, is the most valuable good that bees offer to man and the environment. Without pollination, the food that will end up in our dish would be much less, as 1/3 of the crops are based on it.

If bees are wiped out, 71 of the 100 most important crops in the world pollinated by bees will begin to disappear. In particular, fruits such as apples, strawberries and almonds will experience a sharp fall. However, the disappearance of bees will have a devastating effect on the economy if we consider that the economic value of bee pollination is estimated at € 265 billion a year world wide pollination.

### THE SOLUTION...

The first step is to implement laws that prohibit the use of chemicals that wipe bees. In April 2018, thanks to you and the citizens of all parts of Europe who supported the campaign of Greenpeace and other organizations, we have achieved a great victory: the banning of three dangerous neonicotinoid pesticides by the majority of the Member States of the European Union. Applying this decision and withdrawing pesticides from the market is an important first step to save bees. However, we also need to take measures to promote biodiversity in rural land and protect ecosystems that are still intact. Steps such as making bushes and shrubs from fences and trees and creating areas with wild flowers along with habitat networks can help bees. Fortunately, organic farming (without the use of chemical pesticides) is expanding in many countries, since weed control is done mechanically and biodiversity is maintained. Crop rotation (crop rotation in the same field) reduces the strain on farmland and is

another beekeeping-friendly model of agriculture. National parks and gardens with local plants are beneficial to bees, provided chemical pesticides are avoided and plant and tree variety is protected. Even a simple garden with herbs helps me and other bees too. We really appreciate honeykeepers for helping us produce honey and thrive. My sisters and I thank all the students from Petroupolis for planting herbs and plants such as levanter and also the simple people with gardens. These plants are really important for pollination and also our nutrition. I believe that people should plant in public gardens herbs to help us even more! Again, thanks for the support!

(Ioanna Zachou, 12-04-18)

Greenpeace, intanto, lancia un altro allarme: “Oltre ai **3 insetticidi banditi**, ce ne sono altri che costituiscono una minaccia per le api e altri **insetti benefici**”. Tra questi quattro neonicotinoidi, il cui uso è attualmente permesso in Ue: **acetamiprid**, thiacloprid, **sulfoxaflor** e flupyradifurone e altre sostanze quali **cipermetrina**, deltametrina e **clorpirifos**. “Per evitare che questi tre insetticidi ora vietati vengano **sostituiti** con altre **sostanze chimiche** che potrebbero essere altrettanto dannose – aggiunge Greenpeace – l’Ue deve **bandire** l’uso di tutti i **neonicotinoidi**, applicare gli stessi rigidi standard utilizzati per questo bando alla valutazione di tutti i pesticidi e, soprattutto, ridurre l’uso di **pesticidi sintetici** sostenendo la transizione verso metodi ecologici di controllo di parassiti”. Greenpeace, intanto, lancia un altro allarme: “Oltre ai **3 insetticidi banditi**, ce ne sono altri che

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