Establishing Habitat for Honeybee Health & Conservation

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Preservation Beekeeping Council
www.beecoming.life
Origin of the Honeybee (100 million years ago)

Egyptians began first domestication of honeybees (4500 years ago)

Industrialization of Beekeeping (last 160 years)
Invention of the Langstroth Hive
Feral/Wild Colonies 600 Genetic Changes

Managed Colonies Minimal Changes

Darwinian Beekeeping
Cavity Size
Nest Height
Nest Spacing
Entrance Size
Wax
Propolis
No Intervention
Swarming
Natural Mating Behavior
Log Hive
Just Bee Eco Hives
The Golden Hive
The Schiffer Tree
Honeybee Forage and Feeding Cycles in Willamette Valley

(Timing will vary with weather and microclimater)

**Typical Nectar Flow:****

- Initial Nectar Flow
- Nectar Dearth
- Main Nectar Flow:
  - Blackberry (np)
  - Snowberry (n)
  - Raspberry (np)
- Diminishing Nectar Flow:
  - Woody Herbs (Rosemary, Thyme, Oregano, Lavender, etc)
  - Weeds, and Wildflowers
  - Red Clover (np)
  - Vegetable Seeds

**Pollen & Nectar Sources:**

- Alder, Hazelnut (p)
- Pussywillow (np)
- Scotchbroom (p)
- Cascara (np)
- Maples (np)
- Dandelion (np)
- White Clover (np)
- Crimson Clover (np)
- Vetch (np)
- Fireweed (np)
- Buckwheat (np)
- Vegetable Seeds
Spring Forage

- Calendula/Marigolds
- Crimson Clover
- Mustard
- Vetch
- Oregon Grape
- Rosemary
- Pacific Dogwood
- Fruit Trees (Apple, Pear, Peach, Plum, Cherry)
Late Summer/Fall Forage

- Asters
- Goldenrod
- Yarrow
- Artichoke
- Lemon Balm
- Basil
- Echinacea
- Salvia
- Bee Balm
- Lobelia
- Use native plants
- Choose several colors of flowers (bees prefer flowers that are blue, purple, white & yellow)
- Plant flowers in clumps
- Include flowers of different shapes
What can we do to help the honeybee?

- Plant forage that blooms all year
- Use hive bodies that mimic natural conditions
- Low/no intervention
- Low colony density (ideal distance 1 sq mile apart)
- NO pesticides
Thank You!