

*Et oversettelsesvalg henger alltid sammen med vurderinger knyttet til det konkrete oversettelsesoppdraget (translation brief). Derfor følger her beskrivelsen av et tenkt oppdrag for oversettelse av nedenstående tekst, hentet fra nettstedet: <http://newswatch.nationalgeographic.com/2014/09/27/animals-science-bees-costa-rica-urban-cities-wild-food-pollination-gardens>. Teksten er et utdrag av en lengre artikkel om forskning på bier i urbane miljø publisert 27.09.14. Teksten skal oversettes til norsk og skal inngå i informasjonsmateriell utgitt av en naturvernorganisasjon.*

## **Foodie Bees: Insects Head Downtown for Dinner**

[...]

**Foodies aren't the only ones swarming cities in search of the best eats. Even bees are going urban to satisfy their taste for diverse, high-quality food—especially as wild habitat becomes more scarce, new research reveals.**

Gordon Frankie, an urban entomologist at the University of California, Berkeley, has been studying the foraging habits of native bees in the Guanacaste Province of Costa Rica [...] to find out just how much the pollinating insects are visiting and sampling foods from urban gardens. [...]

The answer: Quite a bit more than expected. It may seem a little counterintuitive, but “urban environments are actually a refuge for bees,” said Frankie [...]. That’s because cities provide bees with new food resources, especially if native plants have short flowering seasons or are in short supply because of urban sprawl and other land-use changes.

### **City Bees**

For the past decade, [...] Frankie and colleagues have been monitoring specimens of the same plant species in both wild forests and urban environments—where they’re often the flashier, ornamental varieties—and recording the bee numbers and species tending to those plants. Costa Rica has 800 bee species; his team has collected 112. They found that in most cases, a plant specimen located in an urban setting attracts as many bee species as does its wild counterpart; occasionally, city specimens actually get more visitors than the wild ones. [...]

The findings support the idea that properly designed urban spaces (meaning, gardens that are planted with particular bee preferences in mind) can not only maintain but even enhance the ability of pollinators to survive and do their jobs. [...]

### **Spreading the Bee Buzz**

Many of Costa Rica’s hundreds of bee species are crucial pollinators of important crops (such as beans, squash, and watermelons) and diverse native flora. That’s why Frankie’s team, with its plentiful bee data, is now working with biologist Ana Chassoul, of the Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica, to reach out to schools and other audiences about pollinators. The idea is to make more people familiar with native Costa Rican bee species and the plants that support them, and to spread the word that both wild and planted landscapes can help the insects thrive. [...]

### **Happy Pioneers**

Even in the U.S., where bees are now regulars in the news because of massive declines from colony collapse disorder and other afflictions, native bee species haven't achieved the status of their honeybee counterparts. [...] "A few years ago most people in the U.S. knew almost nothing of bees, could maybe identify a honeybee or a carpenter bee, but that's about all," Frankie said. "Now, everyone is very interested! But native bees are still relatively unstudied."  
[...]

### **Going Non-Native**

While managed honeybees do the lions' share of the pollinating that interests farmers, economists, and policymakers, native insects also pick up a lot of slack. In response, the charge by bee-garden purists in the U.S. has always been to stick to native plants in city gardens, a tall order when in fact urban gardeners use more than 90 percent exotic plants. [...]

"It's true that native bees overall prefer native plants," said international landscape designer Kate Frey, who specializes in pollinator-habitat gardens. "Having said that, if recommending people only plant native species turns them away from planting bee gardens, we have to compromise. Some ornamentals bloom when there is a dearth of other flowers, so using non-native plants to bridge the gap, to supplement during lean times of native flora, could be a good thing." [...]