



World Bee Day

Theme: “Bee engaged in pollinator-friendly agricultural production ”

20TH MAY 2023

Bees are an important part of our environment and help support agriculture and rural job. To mark their importance, the birth date of Anton Jansa, a pioneer of modern agriculture was chosen to be celebrated as World Bee Day.

Under the theme, “*Bee engaged in pollinator-friendly agricultural production*”, World Bee Day 2023 calls for global action to support pollinator-friendly agricultural production and highlights the importance of protecting bees and other pollinators, particularly through evidence-based agricultural production practices.

Value of bees

- Bees allow many plants, including crops to reproduce.
- Pollinators contribute directly to food security; they are also a key to conserving biodiversity- a cornerstone of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- They serve as sentinels for emergent environmental risks, signaling the health of local ecosystems.

Few facts about bees

- Safeguarding bees safeguard biodiversity, the vast majority of pollinators are wild including over 20,000 species of bees.
- A single bee weighs .00025 pounds. 4,000 bees weigh only one pound.
- Bees heat and cool their own hive to keep it between 93- and 95 degrees year-round. They are cold-blooded and must keep their hive at a constant temperature.
- A queen bee lays about 800,000 eggs in her lifetime. The queen's life is dedicated to reproduction and she only leaves the hive once in her life to mate.
- They are remarkably tidy and meticulous. Bees groom each other and keep their hive incredibly clean.

Characteristics of Honey Bee

- **Social Order:** Honey bees work together through an intricately designed hierarchy, build remarkable hives and protect their queen.
- **Husbandry:** A husbandry is required to keep honey bees thriving. Humans should protect and care for their hives and terroir and in turn, they provide a surplus of honey.
- **Bee-haviors:**
 - (a) Gathers nectar
 - (b) Pollinates flowers
 - (c) Stores their food source
 - (d) Feeds their colony

Wild and Native Bees

- Some wild, native bees live in small hives and only produce honey to feed their hive. Many other are solitary and does not provide any honey. Solitary bees often prefer to create nests near other solitary birds. Their sources are used to feed their young and procreate.
- Wild bees are defined by the lack of care, cultivation, or breeding by humans. They exist in the environment just like other wild animals. The native bees in a given area are often specialized pollinators that cannot be replaced.

Types of bees found in Nagaland

- *Apis cerena* (Asian honey bee)
- *Apis dorsata* and *Apis laborosa* (Rock bee)
- *Trigona/Melipona spp* (Stingless bee)
- *Apis florea* (little bee)

Did you know?
Bees dance to communicate
as they are deaf

