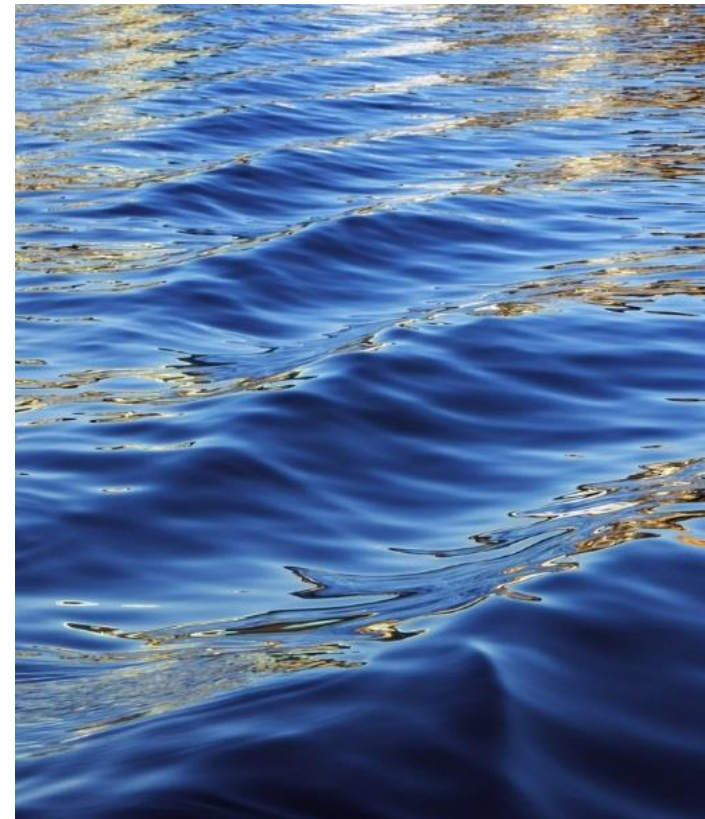




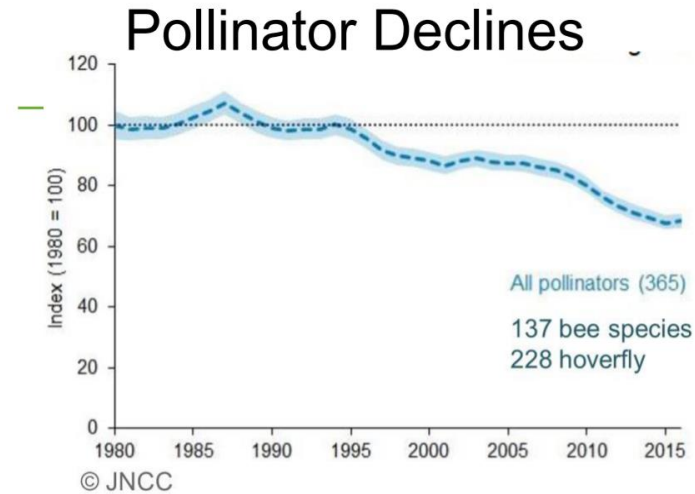
Supporting Pollinators



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Why do we need pollinators?

- ❖ Pollinators increase fruit set, quality and yield of 75% of crops worldwide, these crops account for 30% of global food production
- ❖ The global population is estimated to grow by 2 billion people by 2050 and will increase food demand dramatically.
- ❖ With pollinator numbers declining, there is a very serious and credible threat to future food security.



Diversity

- ❖ Pollinators and crops have co-evolved and as such, different pollinators are adapted to different crops and flowers
- ❖ Facilitating a diversity of pollinators is therefore important given different species suitability, but it also acts to stabilise pollination services provided.



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- ❖ e.g., Bumble Bees are more active pollinators in cooler weather than honey bees. Promoting a limited diversity of pollinator species increases the risk of volatile pollination services.

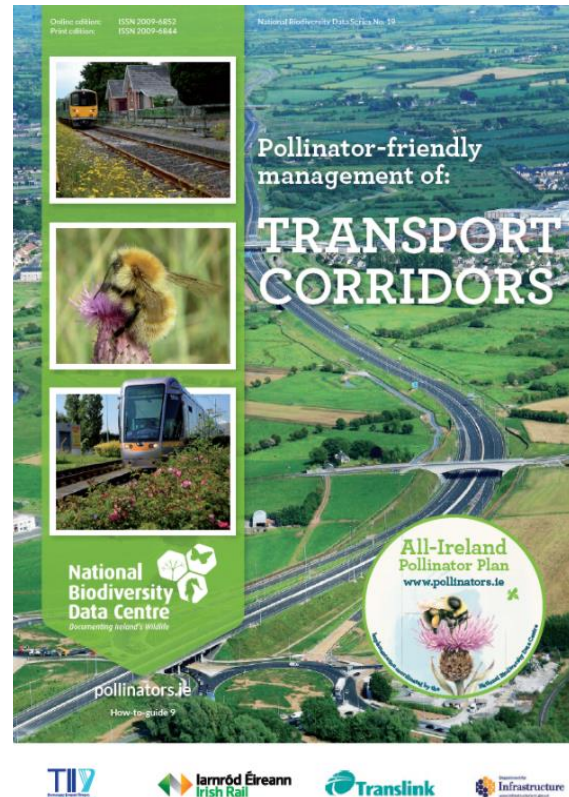


Agricultural drivers influencing pollinator abundance

- ❖ Pollination can be viewed as an agriculture input which can be managed like many others
- ❖ Intensive agriculture drives pollinator decline
- ❖ Promoting semi-natural habitats and traditional practices like hay meadows and reducing the use of agrochemicals will have positive effects.



- ❖ Road verges have been found to be important pollinator habitats in the late season, a time when they are typically cut.



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Additional information

- ❖ A webinar on supporting pollinators through Agri-Environmental Interventions delivered as part of the Signpost Series is available on the NRN website [here](#).
- ❖ The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan aims to bring all sections of the community together to create an Ireland where pollinators can survive and thrive. Details of what can be done by each sector are available on <https://pollinators.ie/>