

A Survey of Honey Bees and Native Pollinators at the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University

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Concern that non-native honey bees (*Apis mellifera*) might outcompete native pollinators is causing worry among governments and conservation groups in the Northeast region of the United States. However, there is not enough data currently available to be considered in the decision-making process on whether it is necessary to place regulations on the honey bee population. To address the lack of information on a local scale, as well as the differing results of previous research on a larger scale, pollinators were observed at the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, a 281-acre preserve in Boston, Massachusetts (USA). It was found that while non-native honey bees were the most abundant pollinators, they coexist with native pollinators at the Arnold Arboretum. The preferences of pollinators for different types of plants were discovered, which will help future efforts to improve pollination.