

Don't know your bees? Bee at ease!

Bumble Bees



ENDANGERED
Rusty patched bumble bee
Apidae: *Bombus affinis*

Bee Diversity in Winneshiek County

By Cassidy Miller and Julia Schulte

Bumble Bees

- Medium to large sized and hairy
- Live in colonies and are very social

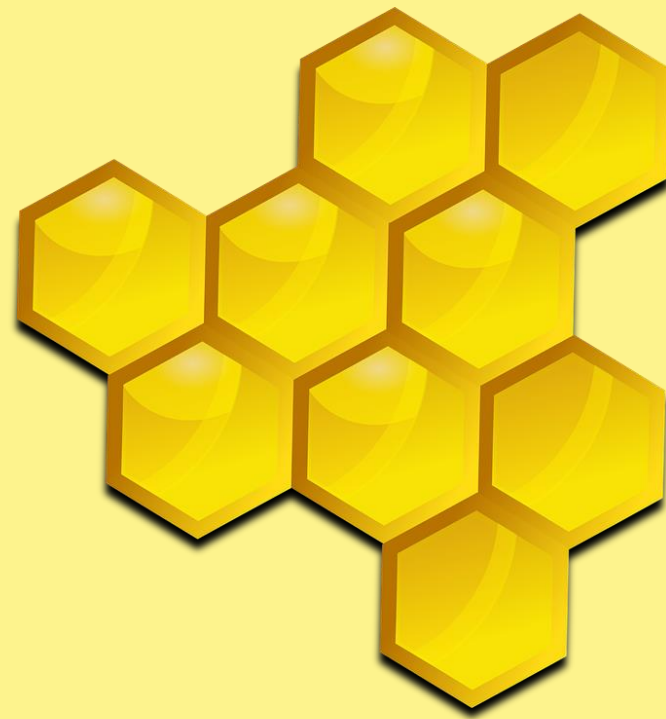
Buzz Pollination
is the fastest and most efficient



Honey Bees



European honeybee
Apidae: *Apis mellifera*



Sweat Bees

- Attracted to perspiration
- Create series of interconnected tunnels
- Better at pollinating smaller flowers than larger bumble bees
- Normally dark and metallic in color and quite small



Sweat Bees



Orange-legged furrow bee
Halictidae: *Halictus rubicundus*

Honey Bees

- Fluffy bees that move quickly between flowers

Economically important

- Honey and bumble bees are the United States' most social bees

Non-native species

Miner Bees

- Small bees with light fur they can be grey, brown, or red
- Commonly found at high elevations due to their indifference to the cold

First bees to fly in the spring

- sometimes while snow is still out
- Solitary ground nesters

Plasterer Bees



Spine shouldered cellophane bee
Colletidae: *Colletes simulans*

Plasterer Bees

- Solitary nesters, no evidence of social behaviors

Produce

cellophane-like lining

around their nesting sites - this protects their young from moisture and soil fungus

- Feed individual eggs one kind of pollen, despite being generalists

Miner Bees



Carlins miner bee
Andrenidae: *Andrena carlini*

Diverse bee populations

Are essential for healthy production of plants and are essential to the world

food supply

For more information:



Leafcutter Bees

- Live in wood-like habitats
- Large mandibles
- Uses preconstructed tunnels and leaf segments for nesting
- Corkscrew like structures on their face for carrying pollen

Leafcutter Bees



Broad handed leafcutter bee
Megachilidae: *Megachile latimanus*

References:

Holm, H. and S. Hendrix. 2005. Bumble bee (Hymenoptera: Apidae) diversity and abundance in tall grass prairie patches: effects of local and landscape floral resources. *Environmental Entomology* 34(6): 1477-1484

InsectsofIowa.org <https://www.insectsofIowa.org/taxon/hymenoptera>
Wilson, J. S. and O. M. Carril. 2016. The bees in your backyard. Princeton University Press. Princeton New Jersey.

