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Increasing the Number of Bees and Sustainable Development Goal #15

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Introduction

Honeybees are the most dominant pollinators on earth. Their furry bodies can transport large amounts of pollen. The important impact of bees on crops is enough to draw attention to the conservation of bees. Ninety percent of the world's top 107 crops are patronized by bees (Klein et al., 2007). Human agriculture is dependent on bees as pollinators. Honeybees have social, ecological and economic importance (Patel, 2021).

Today, the long-standing reciprocal relationship between bees and humans is threatened by the recently reported decline in honeybee populations (Potts et al., 2016). The decline in honeybee populations has given rise to a large number of studies on the impact of honeybee populations on agriculture. But bees are not limited to agriculture for humans. The research question was to find the economic and social advantages of bees to attract people to breed bees.

The Sustainable Development Goals

Sustainability was first defined in modern times in a report published by the Brundtland Commission in 1987. The birth of this report reflected the recognition at the time of the impact of poverty and environmental damage. The report also gave the broadest definition of sustainable development as "meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" (Taylor, 2021).

SDG# 15: Life on land

Biodiversity and the ecosystem services can be the basis for climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction strategies because biodiversity and the ecosystem services can provide benefits and increase people's resilience to the impacts of climate change. The extinction of

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species caused by humans can make entire ecosystems more vulnerable. Ultimately, human societies and economies are also affected (United Nations, n.d.). Bees as pollinators can provide food for a large number of animals, which is extremely important for biodiversity.

Findings and Discussion

The decline of honeybee populations has a huge impact on terrestrial ecosystems. This is because plant reproduction and animal food can be negatively affected. The decline in honeybee populations has raised too much concern about the impact of honeybees on agriculture. This study focuses on the impact of honeybees on sustainable development. It also increases the importance of honeybees by promoting their social and economic benefits. Increasing the number of beekeepers in a way that increases the number of farmed bees and maintains the ecosystem.

Keeping bees has far-reaching benefits for both the environment and the practitioner. Bees are known to be important pollinators, which means they play a key role in helping plants reproduce and spread. As a result, beekeepers can help accelerate the spread of local plant seeds, greatly increasing the density and range of local plants. This in turn can provide more food and habitat for local herbivores, thus enhancing the local ecology. However, one of the most important benefits of beekeeping is its potential to mitigate the effects of natural disasters and climate change. Because local plant populations are more diverse and robust when bees are present, they have a greater chance of withstanding the effects of extreme weather events and other environmental stresses. In addition, beekeepers produce products and services such as honey, pollen, bee wax, propolis, royal jelly and pollination services that can provide a diversified source of income and help offset some of the costs of starting and maintaining a beekeeping business (Carroll & Kinsella, 2013).

Beekeeping is often promoted in the context of rural development because it can provide monetary, nutritional, and social benefits to poor families without requiring land ownership or large capital investments. In some areas of Africa, constraints to improving livelihoods through bee-related activities have been attributed to a lack of knowledge about beekeeping processes, access to equipment, and training (Minja & Nkumilwa, 2016). Vocational beekeeping education can promote economic opportunities for employment and entrepreneurship and diversification of indigenous groups, and help empower women, including those in traditionally patriarchal societies, to promote gender equality (Mburu et al., 2017; Pocol & McDonough, 2015).

Honeybees are not only good for the environment, but also for the economy and gender equality. Bees are widely grown as an economic activity, and their products and services not only help farmers gain income, but also create jobs. These three points are good reasons to attract people to breed bees. The decline in the honeybee population will also slow down as a result.

Conclusion

The honeybee population is declining over the years. This has a negative impact on SDG15. Because the ecology of the forest will be destroyed by the decrease of bees. Humans will also be more vulnerable to address disasters. This study is looking for the social and economic advantages of bees to attract more people to beekeeping. Firstly, honeybees have a diverse range of products and lower start-up assets. Secondly, honeybee farming can provide a large number of jobs to improve the local economy. Third, beekeeping can promote gender equality.

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