

Message

From: Daguillard, Robert [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BBE9682B940C4F2C90732E4D37355DD4-DAGUILLARD,]
Sent: 7/20/2018 8:11:44 PM
To: Troy Farah; Ex. 6
CC: Press [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b293283291dc44e0b5d1c36be9281d8a-Press]
Subject: Re: Subject: Interview w/ Discover re: Bee Conservation

Troy, on background, please:

RESPONSE: “1) My first question is what is the EPA doing to protect pollinators? Why is protecting them important?

EPA’s role in pollinator health is focused on regulating pesticides to ensure that their use according to label instructions does not pose risks of concern to bees. Please visit our [pollinator protection website](#) for a list of [EPA actions](#) and why they are important. The agency recognizes pollinators’ important role in agriculture and healthy ecosystems, and protecting them from unreasonable pesticide risks is part of the agency’s legal mandate.

2) Bee conservation is a popular topic, so what are some things that people get wrong and right about it?

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has the federal lead for bee conservation. The reporter might want to check with their Natural Resources Conservation Service, which is doing [Conservation Work for Honey Bees](#) and other pollinators.

3) Is colony collapse disorder as big a threat as some claim it is? (I've heard Apis mellifera colonies are bouncing back, weren't ever really that threatened and that native bees are the species we should really be worried about. I haven't fact-checked these claims yet.)

Our website explains our understanding of [Colony Collapse Disorder](#).

4) Some people seem to act like we are doomed to starvation if bees die out. Is there any validity to these concerns? Or, would we just find new solutions, such as in China, where they hand-pollinate their produce?

[The Pollinator Partnership](#) (USDA has funded some of their work) and [USDA’s National Invasive Species Information Center](#), respectively.

5) Are honeybees really an invasive species?

See the same links as #4 above.

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Robert Daguillard
U.S. EPA
Office of Media Relations
Washington D.C.

Ex. 6

202-564-6618 (O)

On Jul 19, 2018, at 9:33 PM, Troy Farah [Ex. 6] wrote:

Hey there Robert,

Just following up on this.

Thanks,
Troy

On Mon, Jul 16, 2018 at 3:21 PM, Troy Farah [Ex. 6] wrote:

Absolutely. You can email me back responses or we can talk about this on the phone, whichever you prefer. If you do email, longer answers are better. Thanks so much!

My first question is what is the EPA doing to protect pollinators? Why is protecting them important?

Bee conservation is a popular topic, so what are some things that people get wrong and right about it?

Is colony collapse disorder as big a threat as some claim it is? (I've heard *Apis mellifera* colonies are bouncing back, weren't ever really that threatened and that native bees are the species we should really be worried about. I haven't fact-checked these claims yet.)

Some people seem to act like we are doomed to starvation if bees die out. Is there any validity to these concerns? Or, would we just find new solutions, such as in China, where they hand-pollinate their produce?

Are honeybees really an invasive species?

Why are native bees important pollinators? What can people do to protect them and other pollinators?

Besides neonicotinoids, what other pesticides (or anything else) threaten bees?

Anything else that I might have missed?

Thanks again,
Troy

On Mon, Jul 16, 2018 at 2:47 PM, Daguillard, Robert <Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov> wrote:
Good afternoon Troy and thanks for reaching out. Can you send some specific questions?
Cheers, R.

From: Troy Farah [Ex. 6]
Sent: Monday, July 16, 2018 2:36 PM
To: Zito, Kelly <ZITO.KELLY@EPA.GOV>
Subject: Interview w/ Discover re: Bee Conservation

Dear Kelly Zito,

I'm a reporter for *Discover* and I'm doing a story on bee conservation and what people can do to help. Specifically, there's a lot of focus on saving honeybees, but according to a lot of experts I've spoken with, there needs to be more emphasis on native bees and other insects.

I'd really like to speak with you or someone from the EPA. I can do Skype or phone—whichever works for you. Should be around a 20 minute call. I live in California and my deadline is Friday.

Thanks, looking forward to speaking with you.

Sincerely,
Troy Farah

Robert Daguillard
U.S. EPA
Office of Media Relations
Washington D.C.

Ex. 6

202-564-6618 (O)