



# UH Honeybee Project Bee Pollination Benefits For Crops

Honeybees are perhaps the most important insect pollinator for agriculture in the world. Unfortunately, honeybee populations are in decline, possibly due to a combination of pests, diseases, poor diet, and or pesticides. Bee pollination is critical to the production of many important crops in Hawaii including, macadamia nuts, pumpkin, winter melon, coffee, rambutan, lychee, and strawberries.

The University of Hawaii Honeybee Project (College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources) is dedicated to the development of sustainable agricultural practices and the conservation of pollinators. We are committed to integrating research, outreach, and extension in our efforts to reduce honeybee colony losses across the state.

## Pumpkins



Bees are the most important pollinators of vine crops (pumpkins, squashes, cucumbers, zucchini, etc.), and fruit weight increases proportionally to the amount of pollen transferred to each flower.

## Apples



Depending on the variety, there is a 25 to 55 percent increase in yield within 500 meters of an apiary.

## Watermelon



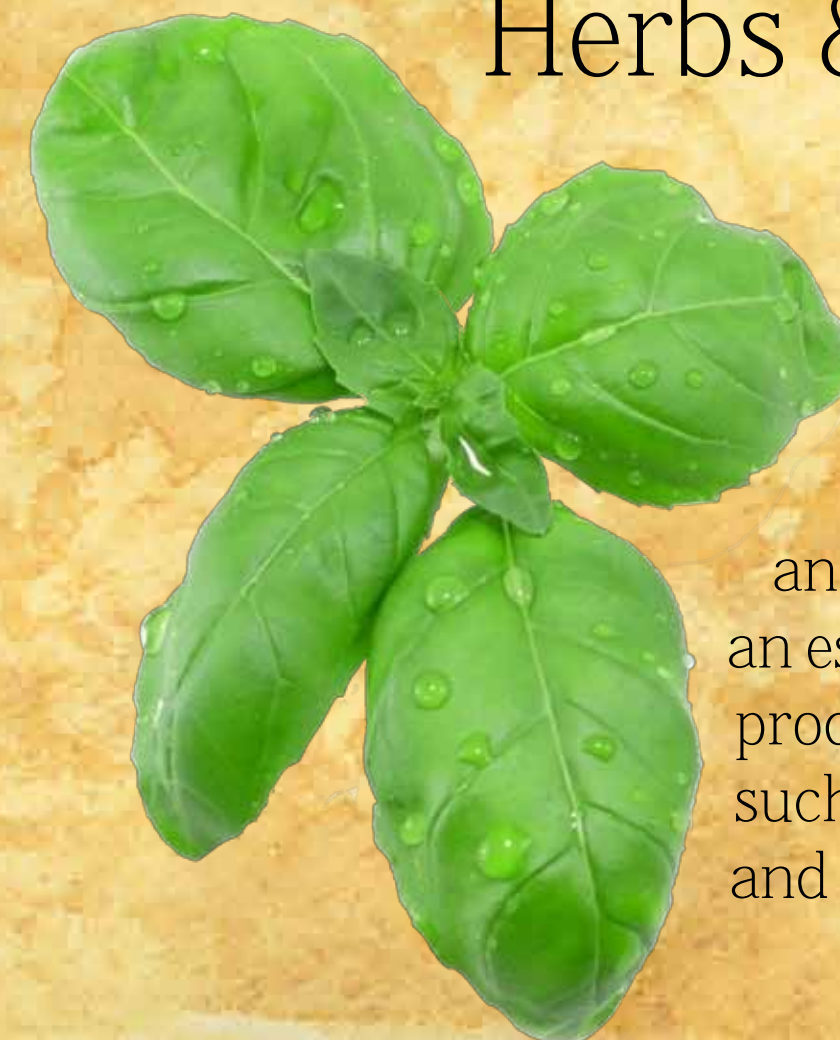
A watermelon flower must receive at least 1000 pollen grains to produce a marketable fruit.

## Coffee



Coffee fruit set and fruit weight can increase up to 25 percent through honeybee pollination.

## Herbs & Other Vegetables



Honeybees are very useful in seed production of common herbs such as basil, mint, and thyme. They also play an essential role in the seed production for vegetable crops such as broccoli, asparagus, and radish.



Scan this QR code with your smartphone to find out more about us and sustainable beekeeping in Hawaii.

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