

# THE BULLETIN

## WORLD NEWS

### Hive heist a mystery for Ottawa couple



Two sizable honeybee hives, shown in a handout photo, holding some 30,000 bees, have been stolen from a field in the Ottawa area, and the couple that cares for them is asking for the public's help in finding whoever is responsible. THE CANADIAN PRESS/HO-Marianne Gee  
— *Image Credit:*

by [Canadian Press - BC Local News](#)

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By Diana Mehta, The Canadian Press

It's a holiday heist that has an Ontario community buzzing with disbelief.

Two sizable hives holding some 30,000 bees have been stolen from a field in the Ottawa area, and the couple that cares for them is asking for the public's help in finding whoever is responsible.

Marianne Gee and her husband run the Gees Bees Honey Company, which rents bee hives to business in the capital region.

A real estate company, Minto Group, rented two hives from the couple as part of its efforts to help the declining honey bee population in the area.

When Gee and her husband went to conduct a regular check on the hives on Boxing Day, they found that the large wooden structures were missing, as were the bees living inside them.

"Both hives, the entire boxes, the bees, everything, they had been carried down quite a big hill," said Gee. "You could see footprints in the mud where someone had walked up and taken them and left. And they would have had to have left in a truck or trailer."

The beige hives, with blue and white Minto logos on their sides, probably weighed about 34 kilograms, said Gee, and likely couldn't be carried too far.

While the financial loss of the missing hives — about \$400 to \$500 each — isn't a huge one, Gee and her husband are more concerned about the well-being of the bees.

"Bee keepers don't move their bees in the winter," she said, explaining that bees cluster in a ball around the queen bee during cold weather, vibrating their wings for warmth.

"If the hive is moved in the winter, that cluster can get shaken apart and the bees can very quickly freeze."

Gee also noted that there would be just enough honey in the hive for the bees to get through the winter, but not enough to harvest.

The couple has filed a police report and has asked Ottawa area residents to report any sightings of the hives.

"We were definitely shocked that they disappeared," said Gee. "I've never heard of someone in Ottawa or Ontario having bee hives stolen."

Whoever made away with the hives likely knows something about bees or is interest in bee keeping, Gee added.

"We're hoping someone in Ottawa has seen someone acquire brand new beehives," she said. "It's really quite bizarre to me."

Despite the bewildering loss of their hives, Gee says she and her husband have been heartened by many Ottawa residents reaching out to them over the incident and helping to spread the word.

"I think there's a lot of good-hearted people out there," she said. "That's been heartwarming to see that sort of response from the community."

Ontario has seen a decline in its bee population over the past few years due to a variety of causes including weather pattern changes and use of pesticides.

## **BEE-KEEPERS ARE MERE BEE-RUSTLERS !**

Bee-keepers cannot be trusted ! The bee-keeper industry is composed of a bunch of thieves ! Bee-keepers are continuously stealing from other bee-keepers. Bee-keepers are mere bee-rustlers ! If bee-keepers are lying and cheating and stealing among themselves, then they are also lying and cheating with their public statements about alleged bee losses and neonicotinoid insecticides !?! Bee-keepers are the least qualified and least credible to provide any advice concerning neonicotinoid insecticides. In their usual method of arriving at scientifically illiterate conclusions, bee-keepers have somehow concocted the imaginary danger that neonicotinoid insecticides was the reason for bee colony collapse disorder. Of course, this is a myth ! It is also a ploy to attract enviro-profit in the form of unjustifiable government compensation. <http://wp.me/p1jq40-77N>  
<http://wp.me/p1jq40-7VI> Bee-keepers allege, with no scientific proof, that neonicotinoid insecticides somehow cause bee colony collapse disorder. Bee-keepers are perpetuating a myth ! In fact, when used properly by growers, with Best Management Practices, neonicotinoid insecticides cause NO harm, and do NOT hurt bees. There is NO evidence to suggest a link between neonicotinoid insecticides and bee colony collapse disorder. Neonicotinoid insecticides do NOT harm bees. Clearly, bee colony collapse disorder is the fault of bee-keepers and their mis-management practices.

Bee-keepers are responsible, and NOT neonicotinoid insecticides. If we had less conventional neonicotinoid use in the environment, we would still have bee colony collapse disorder, because many bee-keepers are NOT competent to manage their hives. PROHIBITION WILL NOT SAVE BEES.

<http://tinyurl.com/pxqzh6m> For the whole truth about BEE-RUSTLERS, go to The Pesticide Truths Web-Site ... <http://wp.me/p1jq40-73l>  
<http://wp.me/p1jq40-78s>

We are the National Organization Responding Against HUJE that conspire to destroy the Green space and other industries ( NORAH G ). As a non-profit and independent organization, we are environmentalists who are dedicated to reporting about NON-EXPERT PESTICIDE-HATING FANATICS, as well as the work of RESPECTED and HIGHLY RATED EXPERTS who promote ENVIRONMENTAL REALISM and PESTICIDE TRUTHS. <http://wp.me/p1jq40-8DV> Get the latest details at <http://pesticidetruths.com/> WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G