



More About Bee Demise And Its Cause

by Art Drysdale

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Art Drysdale, a life-long resident of Toronto and a horticulturist well known all across Canada, is now a resident of Parksville, British Columbia on Vancouver Island, just north of Nanaimo. He has reno-vated an old home and has a new garden there. His radio gardening vignettes are heard in south-western Ontario over radio station Easy 101 FM out of Tillsonburg at 2 PM weekdays.

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The president of an American industry science non-profit group is urging anyone worried about pesticide use in city parks to contact the authorities: the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

"The EPA gets a bad rap for being too political, but their pesticides group is one of the best in the world," Hank Campbell, president of the American Council on Science and Health, told the Chicago City Wire.

Campbell was referring to the recent decision by the Chicago Park District to limit the use of pesticides at its roughly 600 city parks. He said unfortunately for everyone involved, pesticides scare people, when the truth is modern versions are coated seeds that are much better for people and insects than the old spray versions.

"There aren't going to be any threats for humans," Campbell said. "People have been trained to be chemophobes; 'chemical' is now a bad word."

For the eighth straight year, the park district has worked with the Midwest Pesticide Action Centre to minimize the use of pesticides that they claim are harming insects and humans.

Campbell argued that limiting the use of the new pesticides is unnecessary. He said the EPA has done studies on the effect of pesticides on bees--one the beneficial creatures that have been harmed by older pesticides--and has yet to find any long-term harm.

"They are solving a problem we don't have," Campbell said. "If the citizens are really concerned, they can ban them, but it should be an informed decision."

Mr. Campbell is correct! The EPA's overwhelming scientific evidence clearly demonstrates that pest control products are scientifically-safe, and will not cause harm to children, adults, animals, or the environment. Pesticide-hating envirofanatics have shown that they are incapable of processing overwhelming scientific evidence. Should we trust these fanatics, who conveniently ignore scientific evidence, and attempt to impose their twisted life-style choices against our society?

We do not understand what bee-keepers have to do with landscape care - especially in view of the fact that bee-keepers, in essence, have become the enemies of the green space industry. They represent those fanatics who conspire to prohibit modern insecticide use in the urban landscape.

There is no bee-pocalypse because of modern insecticide use. There is no plummeting of bee numbers. The most likely cause is that bee-keepers who are losing their bees over and over again are incompetent! Why is this madness happening? Observers have concluded that many bee-keepers have no idea what they are doing, and are simply not skilled to raise bees. Bee-keepers are killing their own bees over and over again.

In other words, bees are not dying off in the wake of modern insecticide use, they are actually growing and thriving. Bee-keepers know full well that Varroa Mites are the primary problem associated with bee losses, and not insecticides. In fact, bee-keepers appear to be unable or un-willing to get their major pest problems under control, such as Varroa Mites, leading observers to conclude that bee-keepers who are losing their bees over and over again may not be competent to handle their businesses, and may be wholly unsuited to be raising bees. The myth of disappearing bees is a political disease that can only be eradicated with the truth.