

Brazilian Bee Observatory: Program for the Consolidation of Official Data on Bee Mortalities and actions to protect pollinators

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The global decline of pollinators has repercussions on the loss of the ecosystem service of pollination, with consequences for biodiversity and agriculture. The pollinator issue transcends borders and is integrated into the UN's 2030 Agenda Sustainable Development Goals. Monitoring pollinators is essential for interpreting long-term data; however, the scarcity of investments limits these actions. On the other hand, losses of Apis mellifera colonies are often reported lacking technical data. In this scenario, technical monitoring and systematic recording of information on an official data platform are necessary. In this context, the Brazilian Bee Observatory Program is under construction, hosted at Embrapa Meio Ambiente – Jaguaríuna/SP, jointly coordinated with the Ministério da Agricultura e Pecuária, and in collaboration with public and private entities. The Program aims to take actions to mitigate bee mortalities, in line with state health defense, and its objectives are: 1) Strengthen the systematization of response to bee incidents; 2) Consolidate records on the Official Data Platform (POD); 3) Establish a network of laboratories to detect pesticides in bees; 4) Implement capacity-building actions on good agricultural and apicultural practices, and facilitate dialogue between sectors; 5) Encourage the registration of apiaries/meliponaries; 6) Support public policies for pollinator protection. Among the actions carried out, the diagnosis of cases involving bee deaths (RS, SC, PR, SP, MS, MT, GO) stands out, as well as the structuring of the POD and an application for field use, with georeferenced data and a WebGis interface for dissemination, currently undergoing validation. As data is registered in the POD, a better understanding of the causes of bee mortalities and the expansion of mitigation actions will become possible.