



Bee Campus USA Annual Report for 2018 Pollinator Conservation & Education



University of Arkansas Fayetteville, Arkansas

EDUCATION & OUTREACH



Our second year as a Bee Campus USA campus was exciting and filled with many new ventures and accomplishments. We held several events, received approval for a new long-term pollinator habitat pilot plot and installed permanent signage for education on native plants. We look forward to continuing and building on these accomplishments in 2019.

The University of Arkansas held many on campus events in 2018 to create awareness of and educate about pollinators and native plant species.

April 27 - Arbor Day celebration on the campus quad with information on Arbor Day, a native tree to be planted on campus, prizes

and a photo op backdrop.

June 18-24 – University of Arkansas Entomology Department celebrated Pollinator Week, providing information and resources on a pollinator specific web page.

September 3-7 - UofA held the following events during National Honey Month: 1) Mullins Library displayed books on pollinators, native plants and honey all week. 2) A Lunch & Learn with Greedy Goats on sustainable removal of invasive plant species using goats on September 6th in the form of a pop-up petting zoo on campus for students. 3) A Lunch & Learn on native plants and pollinators by Dr. Don Steinkraus from the Entomology department on September 7th.

October 11 - The annual Insect Festival of Arkansas (iFest), sponsored by the University of Arkansas, was held in the Pauline Whittaker Animal Science Center. The goal of iFest is to educate and entertain the people of Arkansas, particularly its children, about the beauty, value, and interest of insects and other arthropods. The first Festival was held in 1993. The one-day event typically draws 2,000 to 3,000 people. There are many educational exhibits with expert entomologists from the UofA to answer your questions.

The bee exhibit included live bees, and focused this year on solitary, cavity dwelling bees. Attendees were able to view various types of "bee hotels" and see live larvae emerging.

POLLINATOR HEALTH & HABITAT



The Office for Sustainability obtained approval from the University of Arkansas to install a pollinator habitat pilot plot on campus. The goal of the pilot plot is to test installation and management methods and review and evaluate the results. This learning will be used to formulate installation plans for larger areas on campus in the future. Additionally, the ongoing maintenance of the site will be monitored and used to educate and train facilities management personnel.

A 900 ft² area near the Office for Sustainability was chosen in September. The site was seeded in Nov/Dec with native wildflower species and will be supplemented with greenhouse grown plugs in spring 2019. The plugs will be grown via a service-learning project in partnership with the Horticulture department's Plant Propagation class. Permanent educational signage was also approved and installed in December near the site with high student traffic. This signage will serve to communicate the purpose of the installation as well as educate on the benefits of native plants.

POLICIES & PRACTICES

The Bee Campus USA Committee is a sub committee of the Office for Sustainability Biodiversity Committee. The Biodiversity Committee deals with a broad range of biodiversity projects on campus such as pollinator habitats, invasive species removal, installation of bird housing and native plant species recommendations, all of which support pollinator conservation.

Many of these projects involve the same core members but different advisors as the projects require. This committee was instrumental in approving all of the key projects this year including, but not limited to, the Arbor Day planting, the Pollinator Habitat Pilot Plot and the installation of bird houses in natural areas on campus. The committee includes members from Sustainability, Campus Planning, Grounds Maintenance, City Government, and Entomology and Horticulture (including students and faculty.)

Recommended Locally Native Plant Species List—<http://fayetteville-ar.gov/DocumentCenter/View/8500/Invasive-Species-Educational-Packet?bidId=>

Pollinator-Friendly Integrated Pest Management Plan—
https://sustainability.uark.edu/_resources/publication-series/major-reports/2014-10-ipm-plan.pdf

SERVICE-LEARNING

A new service-learning project was implemented and approved in conjunction with the new Pollinator Habitat Pilot Plot. The Plant Propagation students will be seeding, growing and helping to install native wildflower plants in the new pollinator habitat. However, this will occur in the spring of 2019 so next year's report will include more details about the project.

CURRICULUM

Currently there are 6 for credit courses offered a U of A and one continuing education course. Approximately 400 students were enrolled in these courses and the Bee Keeping class had 686 attendees statewide with 176 at the Fayetteville class.

Undergraduate For Credit

ENTO 4123 - Insect Pest Management
ENTO 4053 – Insect Ecology
ENTO 4043 – Apiculture (Undergraduate and

Graduate Level For Credit

ENTO 3013 - Introduction to Entomology
ENTO 1023 - Insects, Science & Society
Continuing Education Courses
County Extension Beekeeping Class

EDUCATIONAL SIGNAGE



Signage this year included the temporary presence of our new Bee Campus USA banner at events when possible. This included the library book pull celebrating National Honey Month and the Arkansas Insect Festival. Permanent educational signage was installed near the new Pollinator Habitat Pilot Plot mentioned earlier.

CONTACT US!

Committee: Biodiversity Committee

Website: <https://sustainability.uark.edu/about/campus.php>