



**Householders' Options to Protect the Environment Inc.**

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

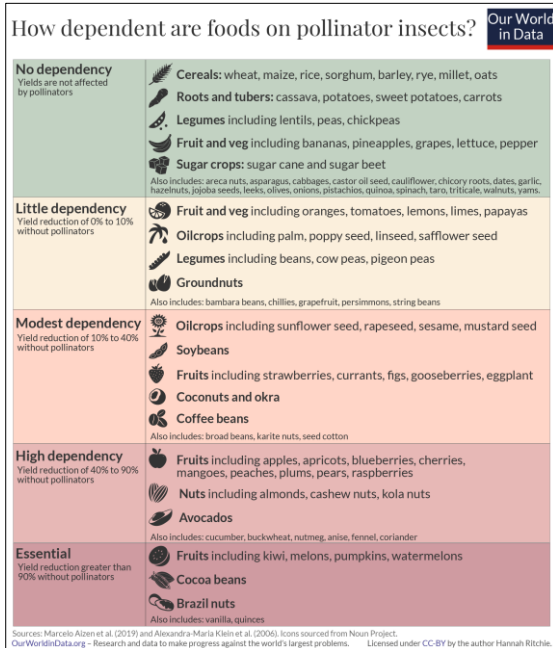
Thursday, 26 October 2023

**Re: Australian Pollinator Week 11 – 19 November 2023**



Australian Pollinator Week (APW) is a celebration of the pollinators found in Australia that are play a vital role in plant reproduction; including ensuring supplies of many important food crops.

Honey bees (*Apis mellifera*) are the most important pollinators; with an estimated 81 million hives around the World. Other species of insect (including wasps, butterflies and beetles), as well as many bird species also play important roles as pollinators.



Unfortunately, pollinators are in decline the world over; not only bees but, also, insects in general. This is due to the overuse of agrochemicals, habitat loss, introduction of invasive species, and climate change. The accompanying graphic, from [www.ourworldindata.org/pollinator-dependence](http://www.ourworldindata.org/pollinator-dependence), shows the dependence of different foods on pollinators:

Because of the importance of pollinators, the week of the 11 – 19 November 2023 has been designated Australian Pollinator Week.

There are a number of ways to help pollinators, including taking part in the Australian Pollinator Count.

To find out more and get involved, visit: [Australian Pollinator Week | 11–19 November 2023](http://www.ourworldindata.org/pollinator-dependence)

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*Written by Jason Dingley, Media Officer (Vic)*