

## Make bees happy!

*„More than half of our important pollinators are threatened to disappear. They increasingly lack food sources and living space”.*

Since many years the allotment gardeners throughout Europe have been investing a lot of efforts to safeguard the bees.

Articles are regularly published in the allotment magazines, old and young people are sensitized, beehives are installed on allotment sites and training sessions in beekeeping are offered. In 2013 the Office issued a Vademecum concerning bees on allotment sites.

The allotment gardeners' efforts in this area are regularly honoured on Office-level, last at the occasion of our 38<sup>th</sup> international congress in Vienna in August 2016. The diploma for innovative projects was awarded to the association “Blumenfreunde” in Vienna for their bee project.

The German allotment federation continues its efforts.



[www.wir-tun-was-fuer-bienen.de](http://www.wir-tun-was-fuer-bienen.de)

Bundesweiter Wettbewerb

So now starts the first step of the federal competition „**Wir tun was für Bienen!**“ (We become active for our bees). The German allotment federation is a cooperation partner of the initiative „Deutschland summt!“ (Germany buzzes)

– who will present good examples taken from all three seasons online. The aim is to mobilize additional participants.

Following the idea that „in autumn you have to think about spring and plant plants flourishing in spring”, the actors ask the people to become active now for the first period of the competition **Herbstsummen** (autumn buzz). The aim is to re-conquest as many areas as possible for wild- and honeybees.

Whether these areas are situated in the public domain, on green sites, industrial grounds, allotment or private gardens and even on a balcony: everywhere local plants should bloom for bees. On the homepage: [www.wir-tun-was-fuer-bienen.de](http://www.wir-tun-was-fuer-bienen.de) all interested people can find the necessary information for their participation as well as fantastic tips and tricks for the planting project.

### **We are looking for participants**

Dear allotment gardeners, now it is your turn! Look for some motivated participants. Change barren land into paradises for bees. Do initiate a project for bees. It is worth participating. There are numerous attractive prizes.

### **Special action for the beginning of the competition**

The first twenty zealous protectors of bees will get 100 € each for their efforts.

If you have questions use the following mail address: [wettbewerb@deutschland-summt.de](mailto:wettbewerb@deutschland-summt.de).

*Thomas Wagner, BDG*

So dear German allotment gardeners and as well as everyone else who feels motivated. Get ready to start.

Dear European and Japanese allotment gardeners: Start similar activities/projects.

### **Appendix:**

*Photo 1611\_BDGI\_Foto\_1.jpg*, © Stiftung Mensch und Natur