



## Frequently Asked Questions

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*“The Bee & Butterfly Habitat Fund is unique in that it has found the way to plant cost-effective pollinator habitat that establishes quickly and provides great pollinator benefits. It’s the trifecta of getting great pollinator benefits onto the landscape. If we try to solve the critical problems for pollinators using the same tools and methods we have used for the last decade, we won’t be successful. The Bee & Butterfly Habitat Fund brings new strategies, methods and partners together to help save monarch butterflies, honey bees and other pollinators, not to mention the nation’s food supply and beautiful landscapes.”*  
– Peter S. Berthelsen, Director of Habitat Partnerships, Pheasants Forever, Inc. and Quail Forever

### **What is The Bee & Butterfly Habitat Fund?**

The Bee & Butterfly Habitat Fund identifies opportunities to establish critical pollinator habitat to help honey bee and monarch butterfly populations thrive. Guided by the mission to increase and improve pollinator forage and habitat, the organization develops affordable, pollinator-focused seed mixes, including native plants. The Bee & Butterfly Habitat Fund is a collaboration of [Pheasants Forever](#), [Project Apis m.](#) and [Browning’s Honey Co.](#) and brings together a very diverse group with similar goals.

### **What differentiates The Bee & Butterfly Habitat Fund from other organizations?**

The Bee & Butterfly Habitat Fund combines landowners, conservationists, scientists and beekeepers to precisely target pollinators’ needs like never before. Using funds donated by generous corporate sponsors and individual donors, the team works together to build healthy, sustainable pollinator habitation through science-based, proven results. The Bee & Butterfly Habitat Fund has created a diverse mix of grasses and flowers that helps provide the ideal habitat for pollinators and wildlife – bees, butterflies, pheasant, geese, quail, deer and more.

### **Why is this important?**

Critical wildlife habitat is disappearing in the United States. As a result, honey bees and other pollinators like monarch butterflies are in serious decline. These pollinators are essential to life as we know it. In fact, about one-third of global food production and billions in agriculture are dependent on pollinators to some degree – honey bees and other insects pollinate 80 percent of flowering plants worldwide. In addition, honey bees are vital to agriculture and pollinate most of the fruit and vegetable crops humans (and that’s not considering the impact on livestock!) consume every day – 90 different crops, making up 1/3 of our food supply!

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### **Why do pollinators need our support?**

Statistics indicate that about 30-40 percent of America's honey bees die each year. Many of the nation's honey bees pollinate our food travel to blooming crops in the spring. After they pollinate those crops, most will replenish in the Midwest. By providing good nutrition, we can ensure a bounty of honey bees and mitigate their stress, thereby developing stronger, healthier populations for the next year's pollination cycle.

### **How can creating a better habitat help?**

Nutrition is the most basic and fundamental requirement for healthy pollinators. The Bee & Butterfly Habitat Fund works to give honey bees and monarch butterflies access to abundant, diverse and pesticide-free floral resources to help them live longer and healthier, so that they can become more productive at the same time. By facilitating the precise development of honey bee and monarch butterfly habitat, the team provides resources for all other pollinators and wildlife as well.

### **How did the program develop?**

In response to the long-term, continued loss of high-quality, nutritious forage for honey bees and critical habitat for monarch butterflies, The Bee & Butterfly Habitat Fund (formerly Honey Bee and Monarch Butterfly Partnership) was formed in 2014. Over the last two years, a pilot program was opened to landowners in North and South Dakota. The program was intended to demonstrate how critical habitat could be developed by identifying **Precision Habitat Projects** – those areas where habitat can make a measurable difference for pollinators. Results indicate that creating critical habitat can be cost-effective and highly diverse, while producing outstanding results.

### **Where can I find more information and sign up for the program?**

Learn more and contact us by visiting our website: [www.beeandbutterflyfund.org](http://www.beeandbutterflyfund.org).

