



Helping Pollinators Locally and Nationally

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www.buglife.org.uk

@buzz_dont_tweet

Overview

- Buglife – The Invertebrate Conservation Trust
- Pollinators: a key priority in Wildlife Strategy
- Local Pollinator Action Plan
- B-Lines across the UK



The Invertebrate Conservation Trust

Europe's only organisation devoted to
Conservation of ALL invertebrates



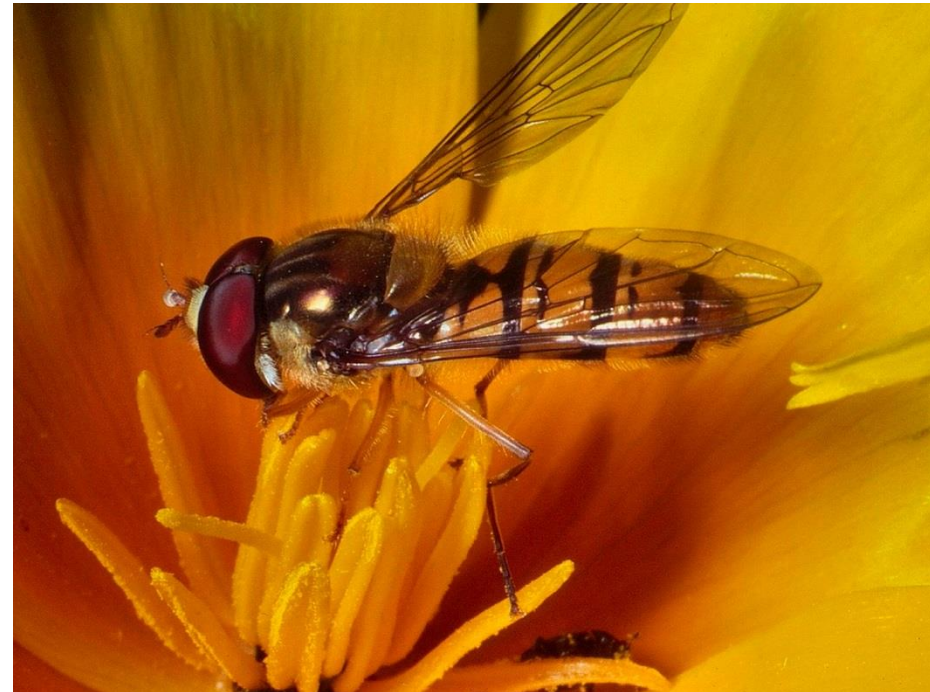
‘Saving the small things that run the planet’



Aim:

Halt the extinction of invertebrates and
Achieve sustainable populations

- 40,000 invertebrate species in the UK

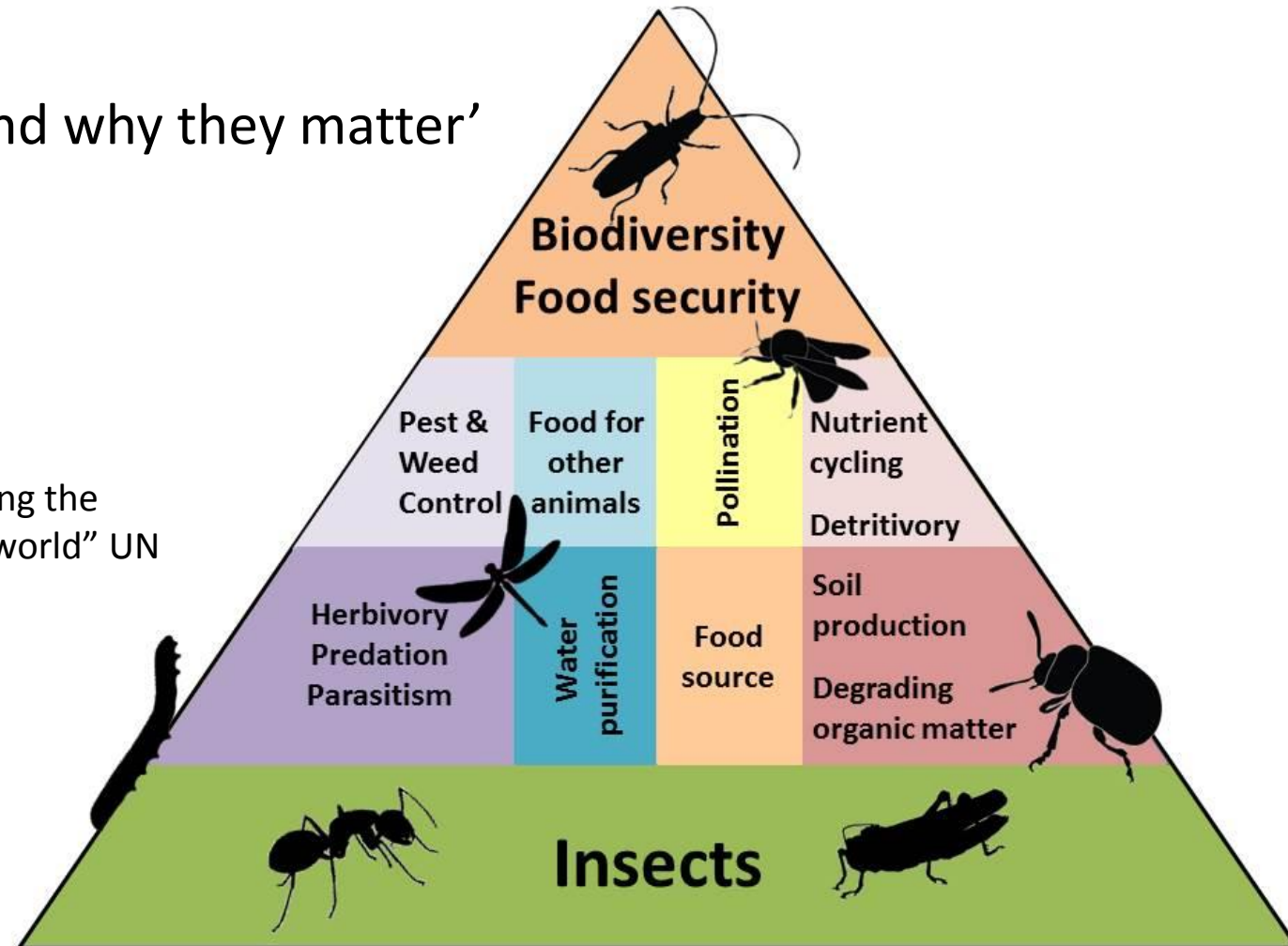


No 'Insectinction'

'Insect declines and why they matter'

Goulson for Wildlife Trusts

Adapted from: We are losing the
"Little things that run the world" UN
Environment 2019



Our Amazing Pollinators



6,000 species in Britain!



Why are pollinators important?

A photograph of a lush green meadow filled with various wildflowers, including yellow buttercups, pink clovers, and white daisies. The flowers are scattered throughout the field, which is slightly out of focus in the background.

Insect pollination is essential to maintain a healthy and thriving natural environment

80% of wild plants are pollinated by insects

Why are pollinators important?



Food

- 1 in 3 mouthfuls of food is pollinated by insects

Including chocolate!



Decline in wild pollinators

Why?

- Loss of habitat including wildflower-rich grassland
- Fragmentation of remaining natural habitats
- Pesticides
- Pollution



Decline in wild pollinators



**Our pollinators are in trouble...
but we have a plan!**



The importance of pollinators



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

www.gov.uk/defra



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

National Pollinator Strategy: Implementation Plan



November 2015

National Pollinator Strategy: Implementation Plan, 2018-2021

December 2018



Bees' Needs Week
8-14 July 2019

BEES' NEEDS
FOOD AND A HOME

© Peter Harington

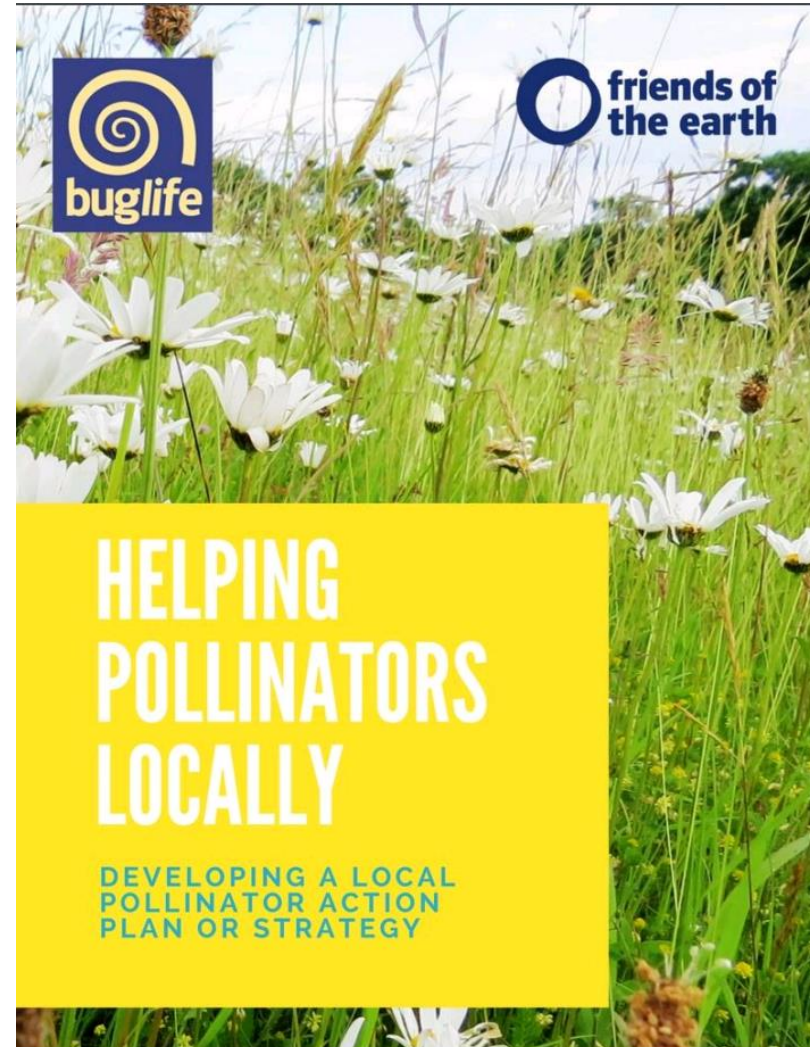
5 simple actions | Case studies | Information sheets | Pollinator strategy | Media

A Local Pollinator Action Plan or Strategy

- Advice for local authorities
- Developing
- Implementing

Road verges

<https://cdn.buglife.org.uk/2019/07/Helping-Pollinators-Locally.pdf>



Phase 1 (2015-17): Birmingham, Cardiff, Plymouth, York

Phase 2 (2017-19): Bristol, Ipswich, **Leeds**, Leicester, Mid Cornwall

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What are B-Lines?

A **network** of routes **linking together** our best **existing wildflower sites** connecting wildflower rich areas **for pollinators and people**



What do pollinators need?

Food

- Flowers - Pollen and nectar
- Larval food (plants)



Nesting sites

Overwintering sites

Larval habitats

Food through the seasons



Legumes, composites and umbellifers provide summer food.

Bramble and rose have a long flowering season



Trees and shrubs provide pollen and nectar early in the season



Thistle, yarrow and scabious provide early autumn food. Ivy often important food resource in autumn.

Importance of native plant species

- Native plants support more invertebrates than non-native



Nesting sites

Bumblebees

Disused mammal holes, holes in trees, tussocky grass



Solitary bees

Dig into bare soil, in snail shells and woody stems, in holes in dead wood, often construct cells with mud or leaves



Why B-Lines?

To provide a **network** of routes **linking together** our best **existing wildflower sites** connecting wildflower rich areas **for pollinators and people**





Everyone can contribute to B-Lines

Working in partnership with:

Conservation partners

Local Councils

Farmers

Communities

Businesses

Schools

Volunteers



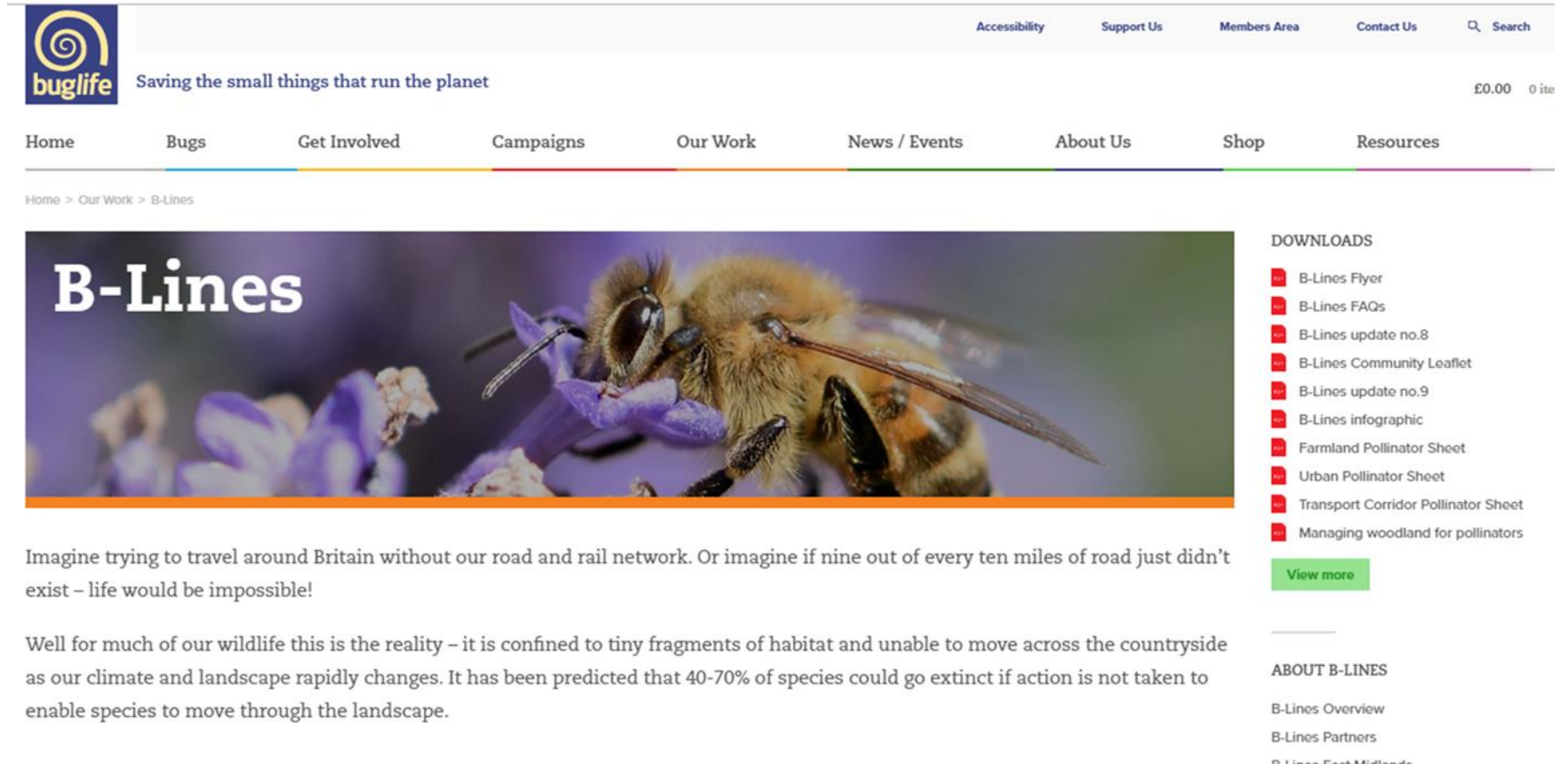
B-Lines methodology

- Using **existing habitat data** and **working with partners** to identify a **network of routes** connecting our best existing wildflower-rich areas for pollinators.
- **Identifying opportunities** for creating, enhancing and managing habitats for pollinators



The B-Lines network





The screenshot shows the Buglife website's B-Lines page. At the top left is the Buglife logo and tagline "Saving the small things that run the planet". The top right contains links for Accessibility, Support Us, Members Area, Contact Us, and a search bar. A navigation menu below the header includes Home, Bugs, Get Involved, Campaigns, Our Work, News / Events, About Us, Shop, and Resources. The main content area features a large image of a bee on a purple flower with the text "B-Lines" overlaid. Below the image is a paragraph: "Imagine trying to travel around Britain without our road and rail network. Or imagine if nine out of every ten miles of road just didn't exist – life would be impossible!" followed by another paragraph: "Well for much of our wildlife this is the reality – it is confined to tiny fragments of habitat and unable to move across the countryside as our climate and landscape rapidly changes. It has been predicted that 40-70% of species could go extinct if action is not taken to enable species to move through the landscape." To the right of the main text is a "DOWNLOADS" section with a list of resources: B-Lines Flyer, B-Lines FAQs, B-Lines update no.8, B-Lines Community Leaflet, B-Lines update no.9, B-Lines infographic, Farmland Pollinator Sheet, Urban Pollinator Sheet, Transport Corridor Pollinator Sheet, and Managing woodland for pollinators. A "View more" button is located below this list. Below the downloads is an "ABOUT B-LINES" section with links for B-Lines Overview and B-Lines Partners.

<https://www.buglife.org.uk/our-work/b-lines/>



B-Lines mapping project

We are currently mapping the unmapped areas of England

- Devon
- Dorset and Somerset
- Wiltshire and Gloucestershire
- Herefordshire and Shropshire
- Berkshire, Hampshire, Surrey and Isle of Wight
- Warwickshire and Worcestershire
- Cheshire, Derbyshire and Staffordshire

Can you help us?

Thank you



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