



EU POLLINATORS INITIATIVE

A review of Member States actions to tackle the decline of wild pollinators



STRATEGY



INITIATIVES



Rural



Urban



Private sector



NATIONAL RED LISTS

Threatened species



Available for *some* wild bees [2007]



RAISING AWARENESS



Citizens



Schools children



Farmers & beekeepers

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No strategies for wild pollinators or similar plans have been identified.

Twelve bee species were included in the national red data book published in 2007. The Nature Research Centre of Lithuania holds a distribution database of faunistic records of stinging Hymenoptera in Lithuania, including wild bees. A new checklist of all Lepidoptera in Lithuania was published in 2017. The Butterfly Monitoring Lithuania scheme is monitoring butterfly abundance since 2009. It is coordinated by the Lithuanian Entomology Society.

There are no nationally funded projects on pollinators. Research initiatives are usually part of studies focusing on other taxonomical groups. For instance, current research on wild bees is being framed within a study on stinging wasps and cavity nesting Hymenoptera at the Nature Research Centre of Lithuania. There are few taxonomical experts for bees and butterflies, and there is currently a lack of taxonomical expertise in the country.



STRATEGIES FOR WILD POLLINATORS OR ANY OTHER SIMILAR PLANS

No strategies for wild pollinators or similar plans have been identified.



IMPROVING KNOWLEDGE OF POLLINATOR DECLINE, ITS CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES

RED LISTS ON POLLINATORS AND DATA ON POLLINATOR POPULATIONS

Twelve bee species are included in the national red data book published in 2007 (Rašomavičius, 2007).

A list of the [macro Lepidoptera of Lithuania](#) was published in 2011. A new checklist of [all Lepidoptera in Lithuania](#) was published in 2017 (Aarvik et al 2017); currently not far from 2500 species are known.

POLLINATOR MONITORING SCHEMES

The Butterfly Monitoring Lithuania scheme is monitoring butterfly abundance along transects since 2009. It is coordinated by the [Lithuanian Entomology Society](#).

The [Nature Research Centre of Lithuania](#) of Vilnius University holds a distribution database of faunistic records of stinging Hymenoptera in Lithuania, including wild bees.

RESEARCH INITIATIVES

There are no nationally funded projects on pollinators. Research initiatives are usually part of studies focusing on other taxonomical groups. A study on stinging wasps and cavity nesting Hymenoptera is currently being carried out at the Nature Research Centre of Lithuania.

TAXONOMICAL EXPERTS ON POLLINATORS

There are few taxonomical experts for bees and butterflies, and there is currently a lack of taxonomical expertise in the country. A group of a dozen amateur entomologists are investigating macrolepidoptera, and only a very few study micromoths (Aarvik et al 2017). Every year five to ten species new to the Lithuanian fauna are discovered, and new information is published annually in the journal *New and rare for Lithuania insect species*.

The Nature Research Centre of Vilnius University (which includes the Institute of Ecology) is the principal centre of expertise on insect ecology and genetic diversity. Until his death in 2008, [Dr Virgilijus Monsevičius](#) led the taxonomical activities on pollinators in Lithuania. Over a period of 30 years he identified over 350 bee species in Lithuania, 235 were registered for the first time in the Lithuanian fauna.



INITIATIVES TACKLING THE CAUSES OF POLLINATOR DECLINE

ACTION PLANS ON SPECIES AND HABITATS

None identified.

FARMER AND LANDSCAPE INITIATIVES, AS WELL AS LOCAL LEVEL STRATEGIES

None identified.

MEASURES ON PESTICIDES

Lithuania issued [derogations](#) to the EU restrictions on the use of neonicotinoids, to allow farmers to continue to use clothianidin or thiamethoxam-treated seeds of maize and oilseed rape. The European Commission has now ruled that these 'unjustified' derogations are no longer allowed. Clothianidin and thiamethoxam are no longer approved for use in the EU from 2020 onwards.



RAISING AWARENESS, ENGAGING SOCIETY-AT-LARGE AND PROMOTING COLLABORATION

TRAINING AND AWARENESS RAISING CAMPAIGNS

None identified.

EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGNS AND MATERIALS ON WILD POLLINATORS

None identified.

CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT CAMPAIGNS

None identified.

PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES FOR WILD POLLINATORS

None identified.

APICULTURE SECTOR INITIATIVES FOR WILD POLLINATORS

None identified.

REFERENCES

Aarvik, L., Bengtsson, B. Å., Elven, H., Ivinskis, P., Jürivete, U., Karsholt, O., Mutanen, M. & Savenkov, N. 2017: Nordic-Baltic Checklist of Lepidoptera. - Norwegian Journal of Entomology, Supplement 3: 1-236.
http://www.entomologi.no/journals/nje/Suppl/Aarvik_et_al_2017_Nordic-Baltic_Checklist_of_Lepidoptera.pdf

Korb SK, Bolshakov LV (2016) A systematic catalogue of butterflies of the former Soviet Union (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan) with special account to their type specimens (Lepidoptera: Hesperioidea, Papilionoidea). Zootaxa 4160:1–324. <https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.4160.1.1>

Rašomavičius V (2007) Red data book of the Republic of Lithuania. Ministry of environment of the Republic of Lithuania. Institute of Botany, Institute of Ecology of Vilnius University, Kaunas.

Educational materials

None identified.