

# The Importance of Irish Bees

- Many people do not appreciate the importance of bees, 80% of the food we eat has been pollinated by bees and no human activity or invention could ever replace the work of bees and yet its taken for granted.
- Ireland has 97 different species of bee, 1 honey bee, 20 bumblebees and 76 solitary bees.
- Bees are threatened due to foreign disease and pests, habitat loss, and food loss.
- In the past 80 years, two species of bee have become extinct in Ireland.
- Bees are worth approximately €53 million to the economy each year!

To save the bees you can, plant herbs such as thyme and oregano as they help reduce the spread of parasites as well as providing a food source, mow your lawn every 6 weeks to give the wild flowers a chance to grow for us and you can let hedges grow as they provide a home for us. Try not to use pesticides as they poison our food and cause us harm!



Gooden's Nomad bee



Great Yellow Bumblebee



Irish Honey Bee