

The Michigan Pollinator Initiative

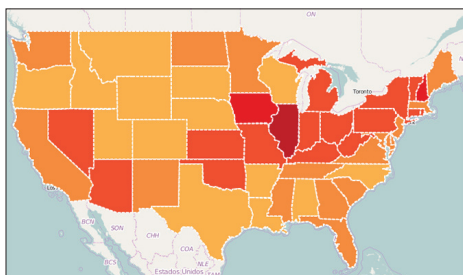
MSU Entomology brings together expertise and resources to address pollinator concerns now and into the future.

Michigan Beekeeping



David Brenner

Michigan is one of the top honey producing states in the country, generally producing around 5 million pounds of honey with a value of over \$7 million. Michigan honey bees provide much of the pollination services for our many fruit and vegetable crops, including cherries, apples, blueberries, melons and cucumbers.



Beeinformed.org

Beekeepers in Michigan experience some of the highest losses in the country – with rates of winter loss around 30% since 2006, and over 50% in 2013-2014.

Michigan Natives

About 400 native bee species call Michigan home – providing essential pollination for crops and our natural ecosystems. These species are under threat from habitat loss, pesticides, and disease.



Jason Gibbs, MSU

The Michigan Pollinator Initiative was formed to address current and future issues related to bees, other pollinators and pollination in Michigan. The mission of the Michigan Pollinator Initiative is to develop a coordinated research, education, extension and policy-driven effort to address priority issues related to pollinators and pollination. The initiative works in pursuit of research-based solutions for beekeepers, growers, land managers and policy-makers to promote economic vitality and ecological stability.

The Michigan Pollinator Initiative is housed in the Entomology Department at Michigan State University and has brought together the personnel and expertise currently working on pollinator-related issues. The initiative continues to seek partners working on pollination and pollinator-related topics in Michigan. Lead collaborators include the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, other universities, relevant state-wide organizations and stakeholder groups.

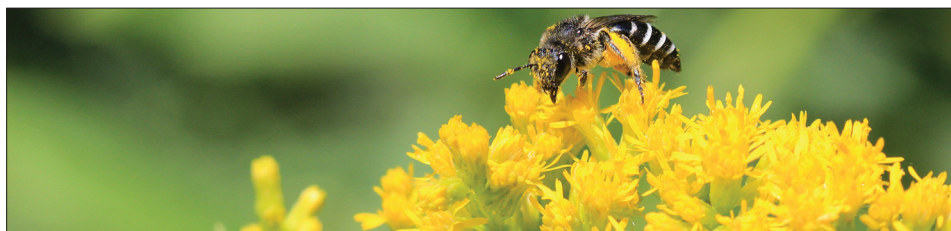
Primary Focus Areas

Research and education programs are focusing on the following areas:

- Pollinator health
- Forage for honey bees and wild bees
- Pesticide use best practices
- Information delivery for beekeepers and growers
- Pollinator-related education



For more information on the Michigan Pollinator Initiative, email Project Coordinator Meghan Milbrath at: mpi@msu.edu or visit www.pollinators.msu.edu



Jason Gibbs, MSU

Michigan State University
AgBioResearch

MICHIGAN STATE
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The **Michigan State University Department of Entomology** excels in research, extension and teaching to address the issues that confront the people of Michigan, our nation and the world.

MSU's entomologists look for systemic solutions across disciplines to address critical issues related to health, natural resources, food production and more.

People

275 faculty, staff, students



9

MSU Distinguished faculty

Teaching

1,400



undergrads take an entomology course each year

Students from
15 countries
since 2009



Research

Multi-year grants with continuous funding (years = length of commitment):

- 15 years National Institutes of Health
- 10 years Bill/Melinda Gates Foundation
- 9 years National Science Foundation
- 10 years U.S. Agency for International Development
- 8 years U.S. Department of Energy
- Continuous funding from USDA including 5 year SCRI

\$10 million annual research expenditures



Outreach & Extension

5,000

visitors to the Bug House each year



\$1.4 million

increased Michigan fruit sales for growers using MSU Enviro-weather's online pest/crop decision tools

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Entomology

www.ent.msu.edu • 517-355-4663

Proud to be a part of: AgBioResearch, MSU Extension, the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, the College of Natural Science.