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**Vanishing of the Bees – Pre-Film Questions**

**AIM:** How does pesticide use impact bee colonies? What impact would a decreased bee population have on the environment?

**OBJECTIVES:**

• List and describe pesticides

• Evaluate the impact of pesticide use

• Investigate Colony Collapse Disorder and the impact on the environment

1. Describe honeybees and their function.

2. What is pollination?

3. Why is it important?

4. What might happen if honeybees were no longer able to perform that function?

5. What is colony collapse disorder?

6. What are the symptoms of Colony Collapse Disorder?

7. What are possible causes of Colony Collapse Disorder?

8. What are the differences between holistic beekeeping and migratory beekeeping? How might the way honeybees are kept contribute to Colony Collapse Disorder?

9. What is monoculture? What are the advantages and disadvantages of monoculture farming? Why do monocultures require more pesticides than other types of farming? In what ways might monoculture farming contribute to Colony Collapse Disorder?

10. How do systemic pesticides work to kill pests? What sub-lethal effects do systemic pesticides cause? What are examples of sub-lethal health problems humans may have?

**Vanishing of the Bees – Post-Film Discussion Questions**

1. List three ways (suggested in the film) for how people can help honeybees.

2. Proponents of monoculture agriculture say that it is an economical way to grow food, while opponents say that the environmental costs of this type of agriculture are too high. With which point of view do you agree? Why? What middle ground might there be?

3. The film suggests that Colony Collapse Disorder may be a blessing in disguise. What evidence supports that view? Do you agree or disagree with it?