



The production of most beef and dairy products consumed in the United States is dependent on insect-pollinated legumes (alfalfa, clover, etc.). What many do not know is, besides beef, pork, and chicken, bees are among the 4 most important farm animals.

Fruits and vegetables also benefit significantly, because yields and quality characteristics such as weight, shape, sugar, acidity, germ power, fertility and storability are determined by the work of the bees. With their pollination performance honeybees secure the food base of many living things such as birds and small mammals. By excreting the seeds, they contribute to the multiplication of plants, which in turn later generations of bees and other insects use as food.

Without honey bees, there would be no almonds. Numerous other crops are 90 percent dependent on honey bee pollination. Some of those crops include apples, avocados, blueberries, cherries, cranberries and sunflowers. Other crops such as cucumbers, kiwi fruit, melons and vegetables are also pollinated by honey bees.

