





## UK butterflies

## Down by 46\%



Down by 77\%



## Great yellow bumblebee



2000-2020



Why does loss of insects matter?
"If all mankind were to disappear, the world would regenerate back to the rich state of equilibrium that existed ten thousand years ago.

If insects were to vanish, the environment would collapse into chaos."

E O Wilson

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62
$$







## What can we do?



## What can we do?

## Promote wildlifefriendly gardening

Turn our cities, towns and villages into a network of insect reserves






70,000 varieties of 14,000 plant species are available in UK alone....


But which ones are best?

Avoid double varieties.....




## Many lists of best flowers, but most not based on science

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# SpringerLink
ORIGINAL PAPER | Open Access | Published: 14 September 2019
for pollinators
Rosi Rollings & Dave Goulson`
Journal of Insect Conservation 23, 803-817(2019) | Cite this article
```

Quantifying the attractiveness of garden flowers

Compared 111 species / varieties over 5 years...

## Results

Overall top performers:
> Calaminta nepeta, lesser calamint
$>$ Helenium autumnale, sneezeweed
> Geranium 'Rozanne'


## Results

## Best for Bumblebees:

> Echium vulgare, viper's bugloss
$>$ Stachys byzantina, lamb's ear
$>$ Nepeta racemosa, cat mint
> Knautia macedonica, Macedonian scabious
> Agastache foeniculum, giant hyssop


## Results

Natives and 'near natives' slightly better on average, but many exceptions:

Best natives:
> Origanum vulgare, marjoram
> Echium vulgare, viper's bugloss
> Centaurea scabiosa, greater knapweed


Reimagine 'weeds' as 'wildflowers'


## Plant flowering trees:

e.g. Lime, Laburnum, Horse chestnut, Apple...



## Mow less!







## Wait for the cavalry.....






## POISON

KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN
READ SAFETY DIRECTIONS
FOR ANIMAL TREATMENT ONLY

Science of The Total Environment
Volume 755, Part 1, 10 February 2021, 143560

Potential role of veterinary flea products in widespread pesticide contamination of English rivers

Rosemary Perkins ${ }^{\text {a }} \stackrel{\circ}{\square}$ 『, Martin Whitehead ${ }^{\text {b }}$, Wayne Civil ${ }^{\text {c }}$, Dave Goulson ${ }^{\text {a }}$

Once a month topical flea and worm treatment

- Stops fleas feeding in 3-5 minutes
- Prevents heartwom and controls intestinal worms and larve





Make a hoverfly lagoon


## And an earwig hotel?




## "Save a bee today;

 save the world tomorrow"


E ARTH

AVERTING THE INSECT
APOCALYPSE
DAVE GOULSON


