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NEWSLETTER FOR BUSINESS SUPPORTERS: MAY 2020

Dear All,

Firstly, apologies that I have not been in contact this year before now. Human capacity is very limited on our end; and then given recent events, I didn't feel comfortable reaching out to you all. We understand the enormous difficulties that your sector is under at present and hugely sympathise with the many challenges you face.

While we are continuing to maintain the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan, and plan for the next phase (2021-2025), public health is the key priority and we hope you remain safe over the coming months. That said, within the National Biodiversity Data Centre, we are experiencing an enormous surge in interest in biodiversity with many people reconnecting with nature through our various initiatives, including the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.

Each month, I send out a very short monthly newsletter to the main AIPP mailing list. From this May, I have decided to also send a tailored one out to this network of our business' supporters. I use a similar format each time – a useful action to take this month, a wild pollinator species to keep an eye out for as well as key updates from the initiative. You can of course unsubscribe at any time.

Thank you again for your support

Dr Úna FitzPatrick

Senior Ecologist: National Biodiversity Data Centre

Project Manager: All-Ireland Pollinator Plan

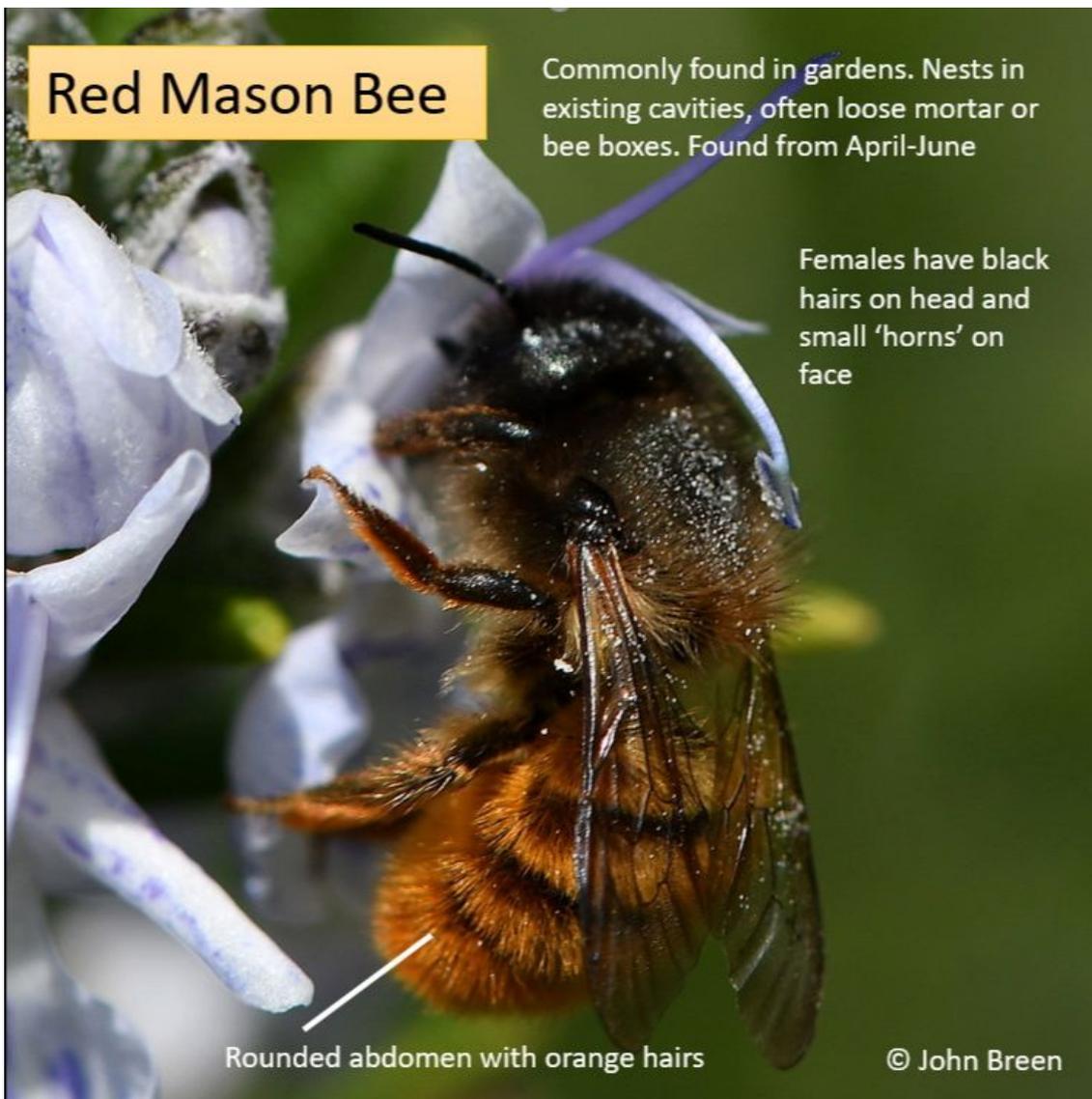
To do this month: #NoMowMay

If you've cut your grass after allowing Dandelions to flower and provide vital food, now is the time to let it get slightly longer again as it'll allow important plants like Clover to flower. You don't have to let things go wild! Reducing mowing, even in small areas, will have a very positive impact on our pollinators (and it's free!)



To spot this month: Keep an eye out for the Red Mason Bee

This is another of our more distinctive solitary bees – look out for the rounded abdomen with orange hairs. This species is commonly found in gardens and will nest in existing cavities – usually loose masonry or bee boxes. It's reckoned that just one of these can do the pollination work of over a hundred honeybees!



Debunking myths – make sure you're doing the best thing to help

The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan has received a huge amount of support across all sectors. We are incredibly grateful to each and every person who has answered the call to action. Thousands of positive changes have already been made to help address the critical problem of pollinator decline.

It is the beginning of a long journey, but pollinators are undoubtedly better off than before we all began this process. However, sometimes certain ideas can take hold that are not necessarily the most effective evidence-based actions. If you are generous enough to help, **we want to make sure that what you are doing is the right thing** and is having as positive an impact as possible. Some common myths are addressed in the pdf presentation below:

<https://pollinators.ie/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Debunking-myths-blog.pdf>



Debunking myths

Are you doing the right thing to help?

Now is the time to input your ideas into AIPP 2021-2025!

We are now actively working on the next version of the AIPP. If you have any thoughts or ideas that you think we should consider please send them to us. You can do this using the survey monkey form – anonymously if you wish! All ideas, big, small and radical are gratefully received and all will be given consideration. One idea I have is that I'd like us to be able to hold an annual event for business supporters, as well as webinars and possibly an annual award for those businesses that are most pollinator-friendly. Please feel free to also submit ideas like this if you feel these would be useful.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/35SSJ89>

All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025: ideas or suggestions

www.pollinators.ie

1. Comments or feedback on the first phase of the AIPP 2015-2020 (optional)

2. Your suggestions or ideas for the next phase of the AIPP 2021-2025

3. Name and email address (optional)

Name

Email Address

SuperValu

We are delighted to partner with SuperValu on a new school's campaign called Save the Bees. Things are now obviously in a state of flux around Covid-19. These kinds of initiatives pale into insignificance during a public health crisis, but we want to thank SuperValu for their support. The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan is about getting the best information to the right audience in the most effective way possible. This campaign was established to try to achieve that, and I hope it will be the case once things return to normal again. For those with children at home, there are lots of fun learning resources on the website in case they are of interest. SuperValu agreed to fund the AIPP project officer position this year (Juanita Browne). We hugely thank them for this as it has enabled us to keep the Plan up and running in 2020.

<https://supervalu.ie/real-people/save-the-bees>



Number of business supporters now hits 244!

The number of companies now supporting the Plan stands at 244. We are extremely grateful to all of you for your support! The following have all joined in 2020: Uniplumo Ireland Ltd, Austen Associates, Bray Retail Park, Donnelly Fruit and Veg,

Grangegorman Development Agency, Showgrounds Shopping Centre Clonmel, Stoneybatter Youth Service, Veolia, Shannon Heritage, Bunratty Castle & Folk Park, Glenpipe Apiaries, Pfizer Upjohn Ireland Pharmaceuticals, Conicker Farm Flowers, Calor Teoranta, Fiserv, HBMO Solicitors LLP, Living Design Landscapes Ltd, The Burren Perfumery & Dawn Pork and Bacon.

<https://pollinators.ie/businesses/list-of-business-supporters/>



Four new Councils have become formal partners of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan

We are delighted that Westmeath County Council, Clare County Council, Offaly County Council and Derry City & Strabane District Council have signed up as formal partners, bringing the total to 23 (55%). Huge thanks to all who have made this happen.

<https://pollinators.ie/councils/council-partners/>



AllIrelandPollinatorPlan

131 Tweets



National Biodiversity Data Centre
Documenting Ireland's Wildlife
www.biodiversityireland.ie

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AllIrelandPollinatorPlan

@PollinatorPlan

The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan is a shared plan of action to help pollinating insects. An initiative of the National Biodiversity Data Centre [@BioDataCentre](#)

📍 NationalBiodiversityDataCentre [pollinators.ie](#) 📅 Joined February 2020

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