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## **BUSINESS SUPPORTERS NEWSLETTER: OCTOBER 2022**

Dear All

We are delighted to welcome the following companies/organizations as business supporters of the AIPP.

### ***New Business Supporters include:***

Jacksmill Hub13, Maldron Hotel Port Laoise, Eamonn Cormican Maintenance Services Ltd., C&D Foods, Garden & Allied Services Ltd., Stryker (Limerick) Ltd., Grasshopper Ltd.

### **Mapping Actions**

Many thanks to all of you who have already mapped your evidence-based actions on our GIS '[Actions for Pollinators](#)' - accountability-mapping portal. To those who have yet to map, please remember it is now MANDATORY and it is part of the requirement for participation in AIPP.

N.B. No physical site? No problem; there are lots of communication actions in which you can participate. OR Delivering physical actions for a third party? You can list those as a communication action. OR if you have permission from the landowner, map on their behalf.

### **Tracking/Monitoring**

Thanks too, to all of you who are already tracking and monitoring on your sites through the FIT Count App [Flower-Insect Timed Count \(FIT Count\) » All-Ireland Pollinator Plan \(pollinators.ie\)](#) Maybe something to think about for 2023?

### **Business and Community Engagement**

Thinking about a community-focused project for 2023? Why not follow the simple evidence-based actions to support our rare Large Carder Bee (*Bombus muscorum*) [Large Carder Bee » All-Ireland Pollinator Plan \(pollinators.ie\)](#) - we know if this wild bee appears in your area that wider biodiversity is being supported!

**Socials & Website** - to find out more follow us on: Twitter @PollinatorPlan and Instagram @allirelandpollinatorplan OR visit the website [Latest News » All-Ireland Pollinator Plan \(pollinators.ie\)](#)

**Sarah Kelly**

**Agri-business Officer**

\*The [All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021-2025](#), managed by the *National Biodiversity Data Centre*, a Heritage Council programme, actively addresses the time-critical pollinator-biodiversity challenge. It is a shared plan of action for the island now in its sixth year, which builds on the targets within *The EU 2030 Biodiversity Strategy*, Ireland's *National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021* (Objective 4) and is mentioned in Northern Ireland's *Biodiversity Plan to 2020*, to halt and reverse pollinator decline by 2030. It responds to the Irish Government's 2019 Biodiversity Emergency Declaration which happened alongside the Climate Declaration. It is also aligned with Bord Bia's Origin Green programme with reference to 'pollinator actions', and, supports members' biodiversity targets.

### 1. BEE WATCH: Keep an eye out for one of our newest bees

The Ivy Bee (*Colletes hederæ*) is one of our most recent bee arrivals and was first spotted at the Raven Nature Reserve (Wexford) in October 2021. It's a solitary bee with an autumn flight period, to match the flowering of its favourite plant - *Ivy*. It nests in south facing banks of light soil, you might even be lucky enough to have it set up home on your business site or in your garden!

The Ivy Bee is quite large and has very distinctive bands of white on the abdomen. To make it a little easier, most of our solitary bees have completed their life cycles now, although there will still be hoverflies, wasps and honeybees on the wing.

Think you have spotted this bee? Please photograph and email to [ufitzpatrick@biodiversityireland.ie](mailto:ufitzpatrick@biodiversityireland.ie) for validation

<https://pollinators.ie/record-pollinators/new-arrivals/>

Read more below about the *National Biodiversity Data Centre's* dedicated Ivy Bee Survey this autumn.

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## **2. TO DO THIS MONTH: Plant some pollinator-friendly bulbs in your planters or car park raised beds**

When hungry bumblebee queens emerge from hibernation in early spring, it can be difficult for them to find enough food. Crocus (pictured), Grape hyacinth and Allium are all great ways to help provide pollen and nectar on business sites, gardens and parks! Now is the time to get your bulbs planted and our bumblebees will thank you next spring-summer.



## **3. ANNUAL REVIEW FOR BUSINESS SUPPORTERS**

A big THANK YOU to ALL of the business supporters who have submitted an Annual Review report (250 words) and mapped their actions (both now mandatory). Some amazing work for pollinators-biodiversity happening. It is very much appreciated.

We are now in the process of collating and editing which will take some weeks.

If any business supporter missed 30 September deadline you have until **[17 October 2022 to submit/map.](#)**

Do continue to map any of your autumn/winter AIPP evidence-based actions on

['Actions for Pollinators'](#) - the biodiversity-accountability portal.

Having problems accessing your account or mapping? Contact Sarah Kelly

skelly@biodiversityireland.ie



**4. IRELAND'S SOLITARY BEES: a new free, downloadable, print-ready poster**

The *National Biodiversity Data Centre* is delighted to release a new free, downloadable, print ready resource; a poster of Ireland's 80 solitary bee species.

This new poster aims to raise awareness of this important but often overlooked group of bees, which are vitally important to pollination. [READ MORE HERE](#)

Why not add to your notice board/ shop window/ intranet alongside the [Bumblebee Poster](#)?



## 5. Bord Bia Origin Green - 'Pathways to Enabling ESG Strategy Development and Reporting' webinar and publication

Check out the **Bord Bia Origin Green's** 'Pathways to Enabling ESG Strategy Development and Reporting' webinar recording [HERE](#).

Included is some very good information on the **Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD)**.

Review the Origin Green members guidance on how to build an ESG strategy and supports available to members. [READ MORE HERE](#)



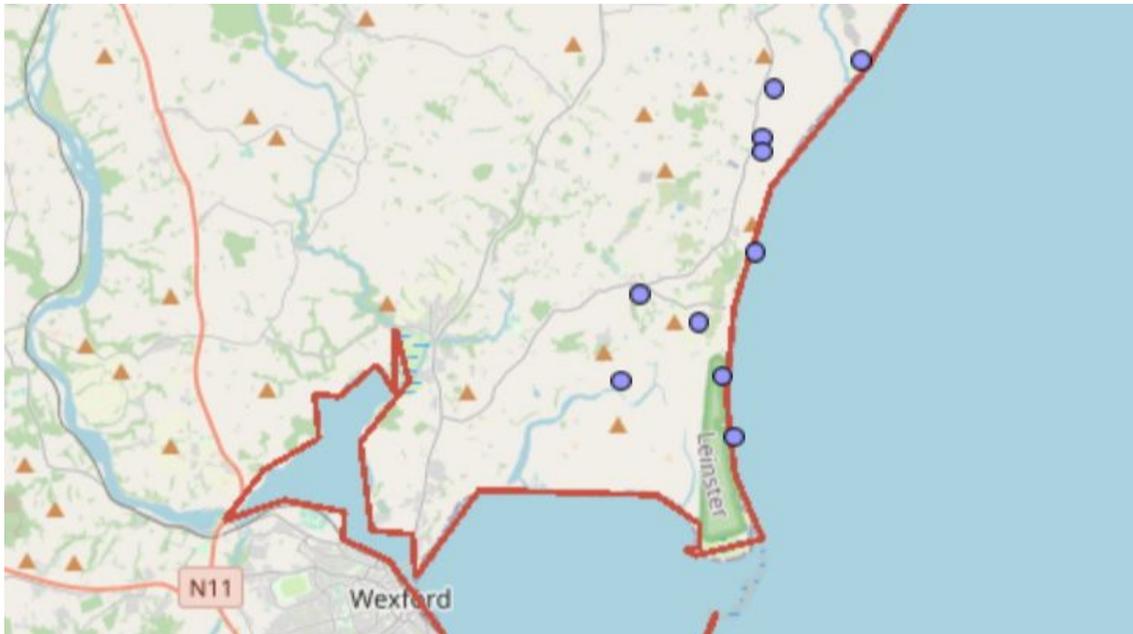
An initiative by

**BORD BIA**  
IRISH FOOD BOARD

## 6. NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY DATA CENTRE: IVY BEE SURVEY – Autumn 2022

This year, the *National Biodiversity Data Centre* was delighted to collaborate with Professor Francis Ratnieks (Sussex University and Ivy Bee expert) on a survey of

the Ivy Bee in the southeast. As this is a written piece of work, data is still being gathered, but healthy populations of the bee have been found around the Raven Nature Reserve and Curracloe, and it looks like the bee has slightly expanded its range in 2022 (locations below). New bee species arrive from Britain during favorable weather conditions. It is possible that the Ivy Bee has already migrated across to a number of locations. Over the coming weeks, while *Ivy* continues to flower, please keep an eye out - especially along the south and east coasts. Think you've spotted this bee? Please photograph and send to [ufitzpatrick@biodiversityireland.ie](mailto:ufitzpatrick@biodiversityireland.ie) for validation.



## 7. GROW NATIVE TREES FROM SEED TO HELP POLLINATORS

Rowan, Hawthorn and Elder berries are looking beautiful this autumn. The flowers from these native trees are a valuable food source for our pollinators in the Spring. Collecting and growing seeds from healthy trees in Ireland is the best way to ensure that local trees can flourish, and gaps are restored with native species. Have any of these species on your business site? Why not invite a tree expert to join a 'Bring Your Wellies to Work' to harvest and then plant some native tree seeds?

[READ MORE HERE](#)



## 8. AND IN OTHER NEWS...WILD BEE HIGHLIGHTS FROM AROUND THE ISLAND

### **MOST POLLINATOR FRIENDLY PARK 2022 - Malahide Demesne and Talbot Botanical Gardens**

In the Republic of Ireland, **Green Flag for Parks Awards** are coordinated by *An Taisce* and recognise Ireland's best public parks and gardens. Within this competition, there is a special Pollinator Award. It is jointly run by *An Taisce* and the *National Biodiversity Data Centre* and assesses pollinator-friendly management of parks and community spaces against the recommendations of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. Congratulations to the 2022 pollinator award winner, **Malahide Demesne and Talbot Botanical Gardens**, operated by Fingal County Council. They have carried out an inspiring range of different actions to make the site more biodiversity friendly. South Dublin County Council's **Tymon Park** (photo below) won in the town park category, and **Julianstown Community Gardens** were given the top prize in the community category. Castletown House and Parkland, Oldbridge Estate, and Tralee Bay Wetlands were all highly commended for their work. [READ MORE HERE](#)

### **CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS BOROUGH COUNCIL JOINS ALL-IRELAND POLLINATOR PLAN**

The Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council has become the latest Local Authority to join the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan as a council partner. They have already taken many biodiversity friendly actions over the past years, and led the way with the 'Don't Mow, Let it Grow' initiative. We are delighted that they have formally joined the AIPP and look forward to working together over the coming years. [READ MORE HERE](#)



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