PP-557 [Pollination and Bee Flora]
Raising Public Awareness on Pollinator Welfare – Polish Case

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Apiculture Division in Puławy is the largest Polish facility for comprehensive research and deepening knowledge on the biology of pollinating insects. The project "Centre for information and improvement of knowledge about pollinating insects" raised awareness on the importance of pollinators among society and promoted good practices for their conservation. Two-year project completed in 2024 was implemented in order to provide participants with the classes on honey bees, bumble bees, mason bees and other common solitary bee species occurring in Poland. Particular emphasis of the conducted classes was placed on the importance of biodiversity and understanding the existing link between the state of the local environment and the quality of life. Participants were provided with the proper knowledge and practical guidelines to shape their surroundings ensuring pollinators' welfare.

Thanks to the huge interest among the society, a total of 62 workshops were conducted for almost 1,400 recipients - twice as many as planned. Continuously the expectations of the audience in relation to the content of the workshops were evaluated to adapt and improve them accordingly. In addition, the participants of the classes received self-made nesting constructions, compositions of nectar- and pollen-producing plants and seed mixtures.

The interest aroused by the project among potential recipients of the classes indicates that further activities of this type are expected by the Polish public in the future, and many people would be happy to take advantage of such an educational offer to deepen their knowledge on both pollinators and the state of science in this area.

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