

3[A] – Honey Bees and CCD

Honeybees are best known for their honey, but their most important role is actually in the pollination of more than 90 types of agricultural crops. It is estimated that honeybees contribute to the production of a staggering \$14.6 billion worth of crops annually in the United States alone. In fact, many professional beekeepers make most of their income by renting their hives to orchards and farms during pollination season. Since 2005, however, a mysterious syndrome called colony collapse disorder (CCD) has had a profound effect on North American honeybee colonies. CCD devastates previously flourishing colonies, leaving just the queen and a few young as all the adult worker bees fly away from the hive and die. The bees that remain are typically found to be weakened by disease, suggesting their immune systems have been compromised. CCD has already reduced the number of honeybee colonies in the United States by as much as 40 percent. Should the colonies be affected even more severely, crop yields would be hit hard as the demand for pollination could not be met. Consumers would be saddled with an unprecedented rise in produce prices and face a shortage of numerous staple foods.

Further Questions & Sample Answers



17. 1) What is the most important role of honeybees?

18. *The most important role of honeybees is the pollination of more than 90 types of agricultural crops.*

19. 2) How much do honeybees contribute to the production of crops?

20. *Honeybees contribute to the production of \$14.6 billion worth of crops annually.*

21. 3) What does CCD do to a bee colony?

22. *It devastates a previously flourishing colony, leaving just the queen and a few young.*

A myriad of factors, including pesticides, climate change, and even cell-phone radiation have been investigated in attempts to determine the cause of CCD.

24. A team led by University of Montana researcher Jerry Bromenshenk, however, believes it has finally put the mystery to rest. Using a technique known as mass spectrometry, in which samples of materials can be separated into their molecular components, the team analyzed honeybees from hives that had fallen victim to CCD in different locations across North America. In all the affected bees, they found proteins belonging to two particular pathogens: *Nosema ceranae*, a single-celled fungus, and invertebrate iridescent virus (IIV), a virus never before found in North America. When honeybees from hives in Australia—where CCD has yet to occur—and from CCD-free hives in the state of Montana were analyzed, neither *Nosema ceranae* proteins nor IIV proteins were discovered. Subsequent laboratory tests showed that each pathogen in isolation is not deadly but that a combination of the two results in certain death for most honeybees. The way the two pathogens interact to trigger CCD is still unknown.

25. “They’re cofactors, that’s all we can say at the moment,” admits Bromenshenk.

Further Questions & Sample Answers

26. **4) What is mass spectrometry?**

27. *Mass spectrometry is a technique in which samples of materials can be separated into their molecular components.*

29. **5) What are the two pathogens that Bromenshenk believes are responsible for CCD?**

31. *He believes that *Nosema ceranae*, a single-celled fungus, and invertebrate iridescent virus (IIV),*

32. *a virus never before found in North America, are responsible.*

34. Bromenshenk's findings have been questioned, however.

35. Dr. James Frazier, an entomologist and Penn State University, believes Bromenshenk has been too quick to discount the role of pesticides.

36. Frazier says research in Europe has proven that contamination by certain pesticides makes hives susceptible to CCD.

37. He also notes that Bromenshenk runs a company that develops equipment for detecting disease-causing pathogens in bees, and as such would benefit if CCD were blamed on a biological contagion rather than agricultural chemicals.

38. Moreover, Bromenshenk is accused of having a conflict of interest on another front, as he received substantial funding for research from a pesticide company implicated in honeybee deaths in Europe.

39. Until widely accepted conclusions can be made about CCD, Frazier emphasizes the necessity of continued research into all potential causes.

Further Questions & Sample Answers

40. **6) What does Dr. Frazier feel Bromenshenk has been too quick to dismiss?**

41. *He feels that Bromenshenk has been too quick to dismiss the role of pesticides.*

42. **7) What does Bromenshenk's company develop?**

43. *He develops equipment for detecting disease-causing pathogens in bees.*

44. **8) Why would Dr. Frazier feel that the funding Bromenshenk received from a pesticide company be a conflict of interest?**

45. *The company that funded Bromenshenk has been implicated in honeybee deaths in Europe*

46. *and wants to create evidence that they are not to blame for CCD.*

47. ***Choose the correct answer from these choices.**

48. **(32) What does the author of the passage say about the future implications of CCD?**

49. 1. If CCD continued to spread, honey could cease to be the primary source of income for beekeepers as most consumers could no longer afford it.

50. 2. Disease carried by infected honeybees will contaminate orchards and farms, affecting the quality of produce and causing massive food shortages.

51. 3. A further reduction in the number of honeybees available for crop pollination would have a major impact on the food supply.

52. 4. Even if CCD were to vanish, the fact that it has already reduced the number of honeybee colonies by 40 percent means many crop yields will fail to recover.

53. **(33)** Which statement best summarizes the findings of Bromenshenk's team?

54. 1. Although the mass death of honeybees involves many factors, colonies are more vulnerable to CCD where cell-phone radiation is strong.

55. 2. Two different pathogens that individually are not fatal for honeybees somehow cause CCD when both are present in honeybees.

56. 3. CCD causes honeybees to lose the ability to breakdown and absorb proteins from their food, which is what weakens and eventually kills them.

57. 4. Honeybees taken from supposedly CCD-free Australian hives were suffering from a similar syndrome, albeit a nondeadly one.

58. **(32)** James Frazier is critical of the study led by Bromenshenk in part because

59. 1. it focused on the effects of agricultural chemicals on honeybees while ignoring other possible causes of CCD suggested by European research.

60. 2. the effects of recent changes in laws governing the importation and use of foreign pesticides in North America were not taken into account.

61. 3. Bromenshenk has ties to companies that stand to gain an advantage if CCD is found to be the result of natural rather than man-made factors.

62. 4. the equipment developed by Bromenshenk to measure levels of disease-causing agents in honeybees has not been tested by independent researchers.

Review Questions

63. **1)** What is the most important role of honeybees?

64. *The most important role of honeybees is the pollination of more than 90 types of agricultural crops.*

65. **2)** How much do honeybees contribute to the production of crops?

66. *Honeybees contribute to the production of \$14.6 billion worth of crops annually.*

67. **3)** What does CCD do to a bee colony?

68. *It devastates a previously flourishing colony, leaving just the queen and a few young.*

69. **4)** What is mass spectrometry?

70. *Mass spectrometry is a technique in which samples of materials can be separated into their molecular components.*

71. **5)** What are the two pathogens that Bromenshenk believes are responsible for CCD?

72. *He believes that *Nosema cernae*, a single-celled fungus, and invertebrate iridescent virus (IIV), a virus never before found in North America, are responsible.*

73. **6)** What does Dr. Frazier feel Bromenshenk has been too quick to dismiss?

74. *He feels that Bromenshenk has been too quick to dismiss the role of pesticides.*

75. **7)** What does Bromenshenk's company develop?

76. *He develops equipment for detecting disease-causing pathogens in bees.*

77. **8)** Why would Dr. Frazier feel that the funding Bromenshenk received from a pesticide company be a conflict of interest?

78. *The company that funded Bromenshenk has been implicated in honeybee deaths in Europe and wants to create evidence that they are not to blame for CCD.*

79. Honeybees are best own for their honey, but their most important role is actually in the ^{授粉 (じゅふん)} pollination of more than 90 types of ^{農作物 (のうさくもつ)} agricultural crops.
80. It is estimated that honeybees contribute to the production of a ^{驚 (おどろ) くほどの} staggering \$14.6 billion worth of crops ^{年間 (ねんかん) で} annually in the United States alone.
81. In fact, many professional ^{養蜂家 (ようほうか)} beekeepers make most of their income by ^{貸 (か) すこと} renting their ^{みつばちの巣箱 (すばこ)} hives to ^{果樹園 (かじゅえん)} orchards and farms during pollination season.
82. Since 2005, however, a mysterious ^{症候群 (しょうこうぐん)} syndrome called ^{蜂群崩壊症候群 (ほうぐんほうかいしょうこうぐん)} colony collapse disorder (CCD) has had a ^{重大 (じゅうだい) な} profound effect on North American honeybee colonies. CCD ^{荒 (あ) らす} devastates previously ^{これまで} flourishing colonies, leaving just the queen and a few young as all the adult worker bees fly away from the hive and die.
83. The bees that ^{残 (のこ) る} remain are typically found to be ^{決 (き) まって} weakened by disease, suggesting their ^{免疫 (めんえき) の} immune systems have been compromised.
84. CCD has already reduced the number of honeybee colonies in the United States by as much as 40 percent.
85. Should the colonies be affected even more ^{ひどく} severely, crop ^{収穫 (しゅうかく)} yields would be hit hard as the demand for pollination could not be met.
86. Consumers ^{消費者 (しょうひしゃ)} would be ^{負 (お) わされる} saddled with an ^{空前 (くうぜん) の} unprecedented rise in produce prices and face a shortage of ^{多 (おお) くの} numerous ^{主要 (しゅよう) な} staple foods.

Further Questions& Sample Answers

87. 1) What is the most important role of honeybees? ^{みつばちの} ^{もつと} ^{じゅうよう} ^{やくめ} ^{なん} 最も重要な役目は何ですか。
The most important role of honeybees is the pollination of more than 90 types of agricultural crops.
88. 2) How much do honeybees contribute to the production of crops?
 89. ^{みつばちは、} ^{のうさくもつ} ^{せいさん} ^に ^{いく} ^{らく} ^{らい} ^{こうけん} ^{して} ^{います} ^{か。} *Honeybees contribute to the production of \$14.6 billion worth of crops annually.*
90. 3) What does CCD do to a bee colony? CCD ^は ^{はちの} ^{むれ} ^に ^{たい} ^{して} ^ど ^{んな} ^こ ^と ^を ^し ^ま ^す ^{か。} *CCD does to a bee colony?*
91. *It devastates a previously flourishing colony, leaving just the queen and a few young.*
92. A ^{無数 (むすう) の} myriad of factors, including ^{農薬 (のうやく)} pesticides, climate change, and even ^{携帯電話 (けいたいでんわ)} cell-phone ^{放射線 (ほうしゃせん)} radiation have been ^{調査 (ちょうさ) された} investigated in attempts to ^{～するために} determine the cause of CCD.
93. A team lead by ^{モンタナ大学 (だいがく)} University of Montana ^{研究員 (けんきゅういん)} researcher Jerry Bromenshenk, however, believes it has finally ^{(put~to rest で) ~を解決 (かいけつ) する} put the mystery to rest.

質量分析 (しつりょうぶんせき)

94. Using a technique known as mass spectrometry, in which samples of materials can be separated into their molecular components, the team analyzed honeybees from hives that had fallen victim to CCD in different locations across North America.

分子成分 (ぶんしせいぶん)

分析 (ぶんせき) した

~の犠牲 (ぎせい) になった

たんぱく質 (しつ)

95. In all the affected bees, they found proteins belonging to two particular pathogens : Nosema ceranae, a single-celled fungus, and invertebrate iridescent virus (IIV), a virus never before found in North America.

病原体 (びょうげんたい)

ノゼマ原虫 (げんちゅう)

単細胞 (たんさいぼう) の 菌 (きん)

無脊椎動物虹色 (むせきついでうぶつにじいろ) ウイルス

CCDにかかっていない

96. When honeybees from hives in Australia—where CCD has yet to occur—and from CCD-free hives in the state of Montana were analyzed, neither Nosema ceranae proteins nor IIV proteins were discovered.

その後 (ご) の

研究所 (けんきゅうしょ)

単独 (たんどく) で

97. Subsequent laboratory tests showed that each pathogen in isolation is not deadly but that a combination of the two results in certain death for most honeybees.

組 (く) み合 (あ) わせ

互 (たが) い影響 (えいきょう) しあう

引 (ひ) き起 (お) こす

98. The way the two pathogens interact to trigger CCD is still unknown.

補助因子 (ほじょいんし)

99. “They’re cofactors , that’s all we can say at the moment,” admits Bromenshenk.

Further Questions& Sample Answers



100.4) What is mass spectrometry? 質量分析とは何ですか。

Mass spectrometry is a technique in which samples of materials can be separated into their molecular components.

101.5) What are the two pathogens that Bromenshenk believes are responsible for CCD? ブロメンシェンク氏が、CCDの原因であると考えている二つの病原体は何ですか。

He believes that Nosema ceranae, a single-celled fungus, and invertebrate iridescent virus (IIV), a virus never before found in North America, are responsible.

疑 (うたが) われている

102. Bromenshenk’s findings have been questioned , however.

昆虫学者 (こんちゅうがくしゃ)

103. Dr. James Frazier, an entomologist and Penn State University, believes

無視 (むし) する

Bromenshenk has been too quick to discount the role of pesticides. Frazier says

証明 (しょうめい) した

汚染 (おせん)

research in Europe has proven that contamination by certain pesticides

影響 (えいきょう) を受 (う) けやすい

makes hives susceptible to CCD.

104. He also notes that Bromenshenk runs a company that develops equipment for

見 (み) つける 病気 (びょうき) を引 (ひ) き起 (お) こす

detecting disease-causing pathogens in bees, and as such would benefit if

~のせいにされる

生物学的 (せいぶつがくてき) な 伝染病 (でんせんびょう)

CCD were blamed on a biological contagion rather than

農薬 (のうやく)

agricultural chemicals.



～で訴(うった)えられている

利害対立(りがいたいりつ)

105. Moreover, Bromenshenk is accused of having a conflict of interest on another front, as he received substantial funding for research from a pesticide company implicated in honeybee deaths in Europe.
106. Until widely accepted conclusions can be made about CCD, Frazier emphasizes the necessity of continued research into all potential causes.

Further Questions & Sample Answers



107. 6) What does Dr. Frazier feel Bromenshenk has been too quick to dismiss?

108. フレーザー博士は、ブロメンシェンク氏が早々と無視したのは何だと考えていますか。

He feels that Bromenshenk has been too quick to dismiss the role of pesticides.

109. 7) What does Bromenshenk's company develop?

110. ブロメンシェンク氏の会社が開発しているのは何ですか。

He develops equipment for detecting disease-causing pathogens in bees.

111. 8) Why would Dr. Frazier feel that the funding Bromenshenk received from a pesticide company be a conflict of interest?

112. フレーザー博士が、ブロメンシェンク氏が農薬会社から受け取った資金が利害対立になると考えているのはなぜですか。

The company that funded Bromenshenk has been implicated in honeybee deaths in Europe and wants to create evidence that they are not to blame for CCD.

113. *Choose the correct answer from these choices.

114. (32) What does the author of the passage say about the future implications of CCD? この文章の著者は、CCDが将来に及ぼす影響について何と言っていますか。

115. 1. If CCD continued to spread, honey could cease to be the primary source of income for beekeepers as most consumers could no longer afford it.

116. 2. Disease carried by infected honeybees will contaminate orchards and farms, affecting the quality of produce and causing massive food shortages.

117. 3. A further reduction in the number of honeybees available for crop pollination would have a major impact on the food supply.

118. 4. Even if CCD were to vanish, the fact that it has already reduced the number of honeybee colonies by 40 percent means many crop yields will fail to recover.

119. (33) Which statement best summarizes the findings of Bromenshenk's team?

120. ブロメンシェンクのチームの発見を要約した以下の文のうち最も正しいものはどれですか。

121. 1. Although the mass death of honeybees involves many factors, colonies are more vulnerable to CCD where cell-phone radiation is strong.

122. 2. Two different pathogens that individually are not fatal for honeybees somehow cause CCD when both are present in honeybees.

123. 3. CCD causes honeybees to lose the ability to breakdown and absorb proteins from their food, which is what weakens and eventually kills them.

- 124.4. Honeybees taken from ^{推定 (すいてい) では~と思 (おも) われる} supposedly ^{たとえ~でも} CCD-free Australian hives ^{致命的 (ちめいてき) ではない} were suffering from a similar syndrome, albeit a ^{無視 (むし) する} nondeadly ^{管理 (かんり) する} one. ^{輸入 (ゆにゅう)}
125. (32) James Frazier is critical of the study led by Bromenshenk in part because
126. ジェームス・フレイザーはブロメンシェンクが筆頭研究者である研究に批判的だ。その理由の一つは・・・
- 127.1. it focused on the effects of agricultural chemicals on honeybees while ^{無視 (むし) する} ignoring other possible causes of CCD suggested by European research.
- 128.2. the effects of recent changes in laws governing the importation and use ^{考慮 (こうりよ) される} of foreign pesticides in North America were not ^{つながり} taken into account. ^{~の立場 (たちば) にある} ^{得 (え) る}
- 129.3. Bromenshenk has ^{利益 (りえき)} ties to companies that ^{stand to} gain ^{人為的 (じんいてき) な} an advantage if CCD is found to be the result of natural rather than ^{人為的 (じんいてき) な} man-made factors.
- 130.4. the equipment developed by Bromenshenk to measure levels of ^{力 (ちから)} disease-causing agents in honeybees has not been tested by independent researchers.

Review Questions



- 131.1) What is the most important role of honeybees?
132. *The most important role of honeybees is the pollination of more than 90 types of agricultural crops.*
- 133.2) How much do honeybees contribute to the production of crops?
134. *Honeybees contribute to the production of \$14.6 billion worth of crops annually.*
- 135.3) What does CCD do to a bee colony?
136. *It devastates a previously flourishing colony, leaving just the queen and a few young.*
- 137.4) What is mass spectrometry?
138. *Mass spectrometry is a technique in which samples of materials can be separated into their molecular components.*
- 139.5) What are the two pathogens that Bromenshenk believes are responsible for CCD?
140. *He believes that Nosema ceranae, a single-celled fungus, and iridescent virus (IIV), a virus never before found in North America, are responsible.*
- 141.6) What does Dr. Frazier feel Bromenshenk has been too quick to dismiss?
142. *He feels that Bromenshenk has been too quick to dismiss the role of pesticides.*
- 143.7) What does Bromenshenk's company develop?
144. *He develops equipment for detecting disease-causing pathogens in bees.*
- 145.8) Why would Dr. Frazier feel that the funding Bromenshenk received from a pesticide company be a conflict of interest?
146. *The company that funded Bromenshenk has been implicated in honeybee deaths in Europe and wants to create evidence that they are not to blame for CCD.*