

Cornell Alliance for Science statement on pollinators

Madam Chair:

The Cornell Alliance for Science believes in the promise of scientific innovations.

As a public communications initiative we have first-hand experience with existing cross-section efforts to improve our environmental stewardship and ensure food security through the implementation of agricultural biotechnology applications.

Pollinators play a key role in agriculture and are likely to also come across genetically engineered crops while foraging, especially insect-resistant and herbicide tolerant crops, since these crops have been cultivated worldwide.

However, in the case of honeybees, there is evidence in the scientific literature that reduced pesticide use associated with insect-resistant crops could be beneficial to bee populations, as compared to conventional agriculture.

Furthermore, as noted in the CBD/COP/14/2 document, the scientific literature shows no clear negative effects of genetically modified organisms on pollinators.

Thank you.