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## Species of bees and preferential time for visitation on soybeans

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Soybean is becoming a foraging option for both wild and domestic (*Apis mellifera* L. 1758 – Hymenoptera: Apidae) bees in Brazil. The soybean area in the country surpassed 40 Mha in the 2021/22 season; consequently, the cropped area is getting closer to the apiaries. In addition, during blooming period, beekeepers are placing their hives next to soybean fields. This fact can benefit soybean yield, but may pose some risks to the bees, if the production systems are not adapted to minimize potential negative impacts. The intensity and preferential time for bees' visitation to soybeans' flowers were investigated in nine different locations. Results indicated that 45 bee species visited soybean fields. The prevalence of the species depended on the distance to the apiaries and the dimension of native vegetation on the landscape. Domestic bees were more frequently observed in the majority of the locations, while non-*Apis* species were predominant accessed in the two MT locations, mostly in the morning. Studies to establish the intensity of visitation demonstrated that over 80% of the bee's population concentrated up to 200m apart from the border of the soybean field. To avoid any non-targeted effect of phytosanitary measures to control soybean pests on the foraging bees, Insect Pest Management recommendations are being adapted to protect bees. Aiming to conciliate soybean cultivation and apiculture, growers are being oriented to avoid insecticide application during soybean blooming. If an application is technically recommended then it should be performed late in the afternoon or at night, avoiding sprayings close to the border of the fields. Growers are also instructed to thoroughly follow the best pesticide application practices, and to communicate with neighboring beekeepers at least 24h before a pesticide application, to allow them to previously close or move their hives to a safer place.

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