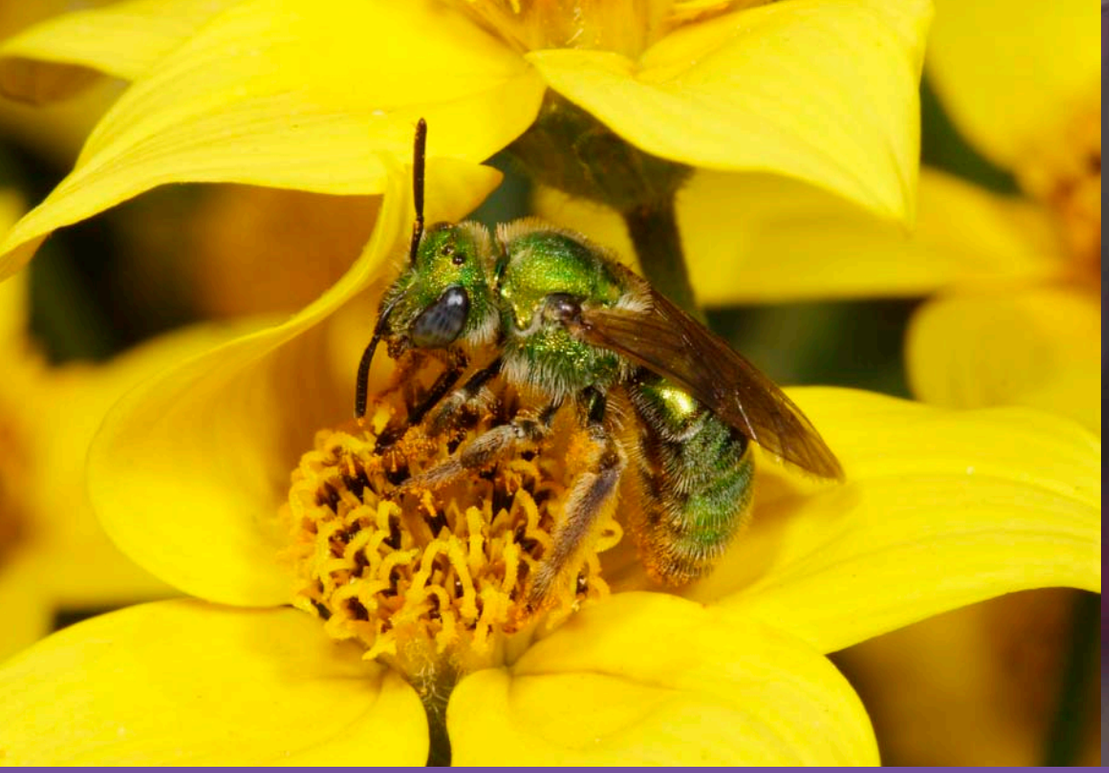
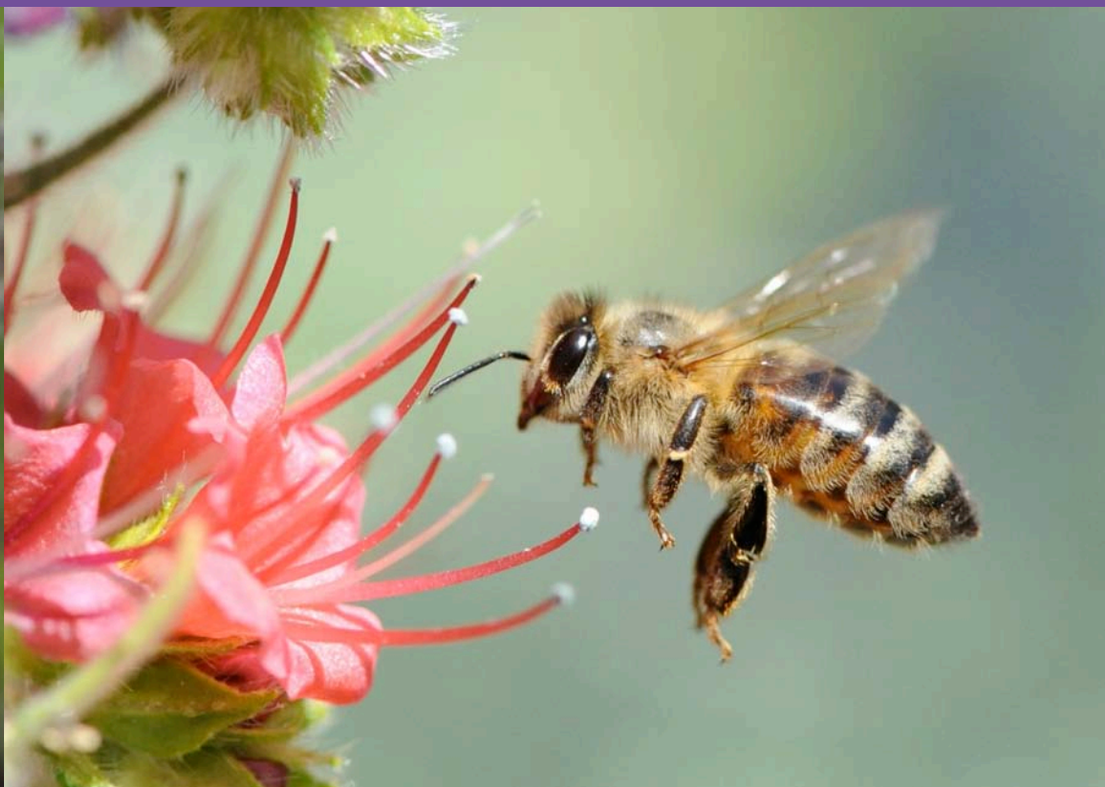


2011 NORTH AMERICAN BEE CALENDAR



Female sweat bee *(Lasioglossum sisymbrii)* foraging on Mendocino bushmallow *(Malacothamnus fasciculatus)*
Photograph by Rollin Coville

MAY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 ●	4	5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7
8 Mother's Day	9	10 ◐	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 ○	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 ◑	25	26	27	28
29	30	31 Memorial Day		Female sweat bee (Lasioglossum pavonotum) looking for pollen in a California poppy (Eschscholzia californica). Photograph by Rollin Coville		

APRIL

SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

JUNE

SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Genus: *Lasioglossum*

Common Name: Sweat Bee

Pollen/Nectar Sources include:
Pycnanthemum (mountain mint)
Erigeron (fleabane)
Eryngium (rattlesnake master)
Symphyotrichum (aster)
Solidago (goldenrod)
Coreopsis (tickseed)

Emergence Time:
Early spring through summer.

Nesting Habit: Ground nesting; there may be multiple generations of offspring throughout the spring and summer season.

Distinguishing Characteristics:

- Very small slender bees, some species measuring less than ¼ inch in length.
- Color varies from dark brown or grey to black metallic with some species displaying banding on the abdomen.
- The common name of Sweat Bee derives from their reported attraction to human perspiration.
- Females of all *Lasioglossum* species mate before hibernating for the winter, emerging in spring ready to found new nests of offspring.
- True generalists, *Lasioglossum* species visit a wide variety of flowers for pollen and nectar, and, given the opportunity, are significant pollinators of many crop plants.

Pollinated Crops Include:
Watermelon, muskmelon, strawberry, tomato, pepper, blueberry, almond.

Below: Sweat bee (Lasioglossum mellipes) visiting a checkerbloom (Sidalcea). Photograph by Rollin Coville












Join the Hunt for Bees!

The Great Sunflower Project
www.greatsunflower.org
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The Great Sunflower Project empowers people from pre-schoolers to scientists to make the world a better place for bees. The idea is simple; gardeners plant a sunflower and time how long it takes for five bees to visit. Gardens that quickly see bees are healthy. Gardens that don't see bees aren't. The sunflowers are both a thermometer measuring the health of the bee community across the continent and a wonderful resource making each garden where they are planted a better place for bees. Join us at www.GreatSunflower.org!

The Xerces Society
for invertebrate conservation

The Xerces Society works at the forefront of invertebrate protection, harnessing the knowledge of scientists and the enthusiasm of local citizens to implement conservation and education programs with a focus on endangered species, aquatic invertebrates, and pollinators. It is one of the nation's leading native bee conservation organizations, providing advice and information to gardeners, land owners, farmers, and agency staff. Visit www.xerces.org for conservation information or to join the Society.

Rollin Coville

Rollin received his Ph.D. degree in Entomology from the University of California at Berkeley in 1978. For more than 25 years his primary outside interest has been photographing insects and spiders. Recently, he has collaborated with both Dr. Gordon Frankie at U. C. Berkeley and Dr. Robin Thorp at U. C. Davis, on a number of projects involving the study of urban bees. Visit Rollin's photo gallery at www.covillephotos.com

Special thanks

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