



When we think of popcorn, we imagine nights at movie theaters, the smell of salt and melted butter, maybe even the sensation of kernels caught in teeth.

But did you know that this beloved snack could also play a part in saving the bees?

Bee populations throughout the country are falling -- more than 700 native bee species are on the decline. And most of the corn grown in the U.S. is treated with neonicotinoids (neonics), a class of pesticides that are fueling this collapse.¹

Corn doesn't have to grow at the expense of bees.

We're calling on Orville Redenbacher's to commit to sourcing its popcorn exclusively from farmers who don't use neonic-treated seeds.

[Tell Orville Redenbacher's: Popcorn doesn't have to endanger pollinators.](#)

Most corn grown in the U.S. starts as a single seed coated in a shell of bee-killing neonic pesticides. When these seeds grow, the pesticides are absorbed into the plant. This means every part of the plant, even its nectar and pollen, is potentially lethal to a passing bee.²

These pesticides attack the nervous system of exposed bees. Moderate exposure can cause dizziness and forgetfulness. When exposed to larger amounts, bees suffer seizures, paralysis and death.³

Neonics have become increasingly common over the past few decades. It's estimated that more than 70% of all soybean, corn and cotton seeds grown in the U.S. are pre-coated with these pesticides.⁴

[Millions of acres of American farmland are now toxic to bees: Call on Orville Redenbacher's to source its popcorn from bee-friendly farms instead.](#)

Orville Redenbacher's is the #1 brand of microwave popcorn in the country. Think of how many acres of corn that requires. By only sourcing from neonic-free corn fields, this iconic popcorn brand could be a leader in bee-friendly agriculture.⁵

A handful of popcorn might not seem like much, but if Orville Redenbacher's commits to sourcing neonic-free corn, your movie-night snack could help protect more bees from deadly pesticides.

When it comes to bee survival, every acre, each flower visited, each granule of pollen collected and fed to a baby bee, matters.

[Tell Orville Redenbacher's: Help bees buzz safely -- commit to using neonic-free corn.](#)

Thank you,

David Masur
Executive Director

1. Steve Blackledge, "[Why we should save the bees, especially the wild bees who need our help the most](#)," Environment America, April 19, 2024.
2. Steve Blackledge, "[How just a single seed can kill 80,000 bees](#)," Environment America, June 30, 2025.
3. Steve Blackledge, "[Three ways neonic pesticides are harming bees](#)," Environment America, April 19, 2024.
4. Steve Blackledge, "[How just a single seed can kill 80,000 bees](#)," Environment America, June 30, 2025.
5. "[Brand History](#)," Orville Redenbacher's, last accessed October 21, 2025.

[Donate today.](#) A cleaner, greener future is within our reach. Your donation today can help us bring the vision we share a little closer to reality.

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