



## Working to End Colony Collapse Disorder

How Host Defense® and You Can Give Bees a Chance!

### Why "Bee" Concerned?

One out of three bites of food you eat requires pollination by honey bees. Since the initial detection of Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) in 2006, honey bee keepers have been losing roughly 30% of their hives annually.

Although CCD is not fully understood, it appears to be a destructive synergism of multiple drivers of collapse. These include but are not limited to pesticides, parasitic mites, and increased viral levels (Fig. 1).



**Figure 1. Deformed Wing Virus (DWV)** is largely impacting honey, bumble-, and wild bee populations. DWV causes shriveled wings, reduced worker life span, reduced foraging, and immunosuppression in honey bees. Top left image represents normal bumblebee while bottom left represents bumblebee with DWV.

### What Is Host Defense Doing?

In 2014, Paul Stamets, D.Sc., award-winning mycologist (the study of mushrooms) and founder of Host Defense, teamed up with Dr. Steve Sheppard, Chair of the Department of Entomology at Washington State University.

In 2015, experiments began where honey bees drank different mushroom mycelium extracts. Some mycelium extracts of polypore mushrooms (Reishi and Amadou) have been shown to confer an immune benefit to bees.

"As an entomologist with 40-plus years of experience studying bees, I am unaware of any reports of materials that extend the life of worker bees more than this," said Dr. Sheppard.

### Where Is Host Defense Today?

As a result of our Give Bees a Chance program, Host Defense has directly contributed over \$150,000 to fund bee research,

specifically studying how mushroom mycelium extracts can help bees overcome CCD. In addition to cash contributions, we have also donated countless research hours and materials (liquid extracts) to the research efforts.

In total, awareness efforts stemming from Paul Stamets, Fungi Perfecti, and the Host Defense supplement line have accumulatively resulted in nearly \$5 million in funding for the Honey Bee & Pollinator Division at Washington State University.

### How Can You Help?

1. Buy products that are bee friendly, organic, and give back to important research!
2. Eat local and organic.
3. Avoid using chemicals like pesticides in your yard and garden.
4. Plant wildflowers and herbs.
5. Create a mushroom-friendly biosphere in your yard.
6. Donate directly to organizations like Washington State University's Honey Bee Lab!
7. Find out more by visiting [BeeFriendlyInitiative.org](http://BeeFriendlyInitiative.org).

### Who Is Host Defense?

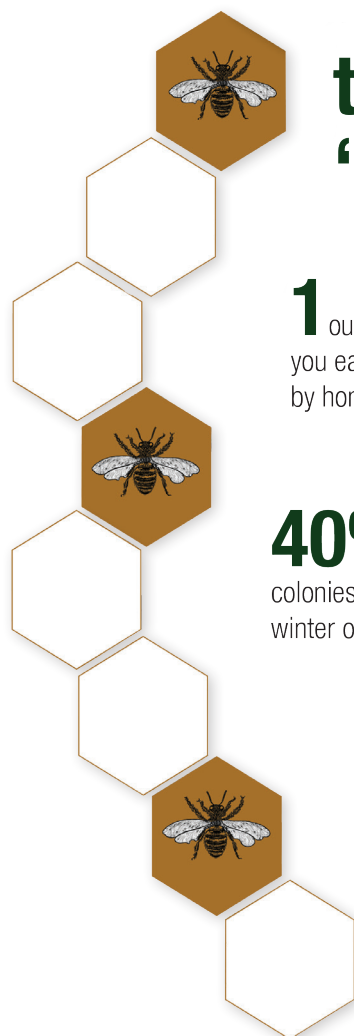
**We grow our own:** Our facility in Washington State, USA, grows our certified organic mushrooms and mushroom mycelium used in formulas to support natural immunity and whole body wellness.\*

### Produced under direct supervision of Paul Stamets, D.Sc.:

Award-winning mycologist, lecturer, Chief Science Officer, and founder of Host Defense.

**Optimized bioavailability & potency:** First, mushroom mycelium is freeze-dried to capture constituents at their peak, then heat-treated to promote bioavailability.\*

(CONTINUED ON OTHER SIDE)



## the “buzz”

**1** out of **3** bites of food  
you eat requires pollination  
by honey bees.

**40%** of honey bee  
colonies died over the  
winter of 2017-2018.<sup>1</sup>

Host Defense has contributed  
over **\$150K**  
to fund Colony Collapse  
Disorder research!

HOST DEFENSE®  
*Mushrooms™*



**beefriendlyinitiative.org**

(877) 504-6926

[www.HostDefense.com](http://www.HostDefense.com)

#findyourmushroom

*For the latest information on  
health and nutrition, ask the staff  
at this fine store to reserve your  
copy of Taste for Life.*

These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. This information is not intended to provide medical advice on personal health conditions, nor to replace recommendations made by healthcare professionals or product manufacturers. Information appearing in *Taste for Life* publications may not be reproduced in whole or in part without express permission of the publisher. Printed in the US on partially recycled paper. © 2019

THIS INFORMATION IS COMPLIMENTS OF:

<sup>1</sup>May 23rd, 2018. "Honey Bee Colony Losses 2017-2018: Preliminary Results." *Bee Informed Partnership*, [beeinformed.org/results/honey-bee-colony-losses-2017-2018-preliminary-results/](http://beeinformed.org/results/honey-bee-colony-losses-2017-2018-preliminary-results/).