

6 Bees looking for a home

Earlier, when the honey bees were still living wild, they nested in tree hollows and “Zeidler” (honey collectors) took advantage of this and took the honeycombs out of the trees. Even at that time, the bee colony split each year and looked for a new tree cave. This is called swarming. Even today, many honeybees follow this swarming impulse every year and then you might see them hanging as a bee cluster in the trees. The search for a hive for wild bees looks totally different and they nest in very different ways. Above all, they need one thing: diversity in the landscape, e.g. deadwood, open soil, and dead plant stems. However, sufficient flowering plants, hedges, field margins and borders that connect these habitats are important for the conservation of this species. This is called biotope networking.