

Government Takes Away Food Deliveries

THE BOUNDS ARE DENIED FOOD DUE TO VIOLENCE



PESTICIDES THREATEN THE BEE POPULATION



SON AND FATHER DEAD TRYING TO ESCAPE THE CITY BOUNDS



THE DOME'S CURRENT PROGRESS

THE OBEECITY TIMES



Scientists Make Major Discovery In Cloning, But Anxiety Remains

By: Kaelie Macaulay / News Writer

The Obecity Government has been conducting experiments in regards to cloning bees and they have finally found a breakthrough. After continuous and often unsuccessful trials, the Obecity scientists have finally cloned their

Bees are responsible for 70% of the daily human diet



their first worker bee. Scientists were able to do this through the process of extracting the nucleus from the egg cell and the somatic body cell with the desired gene. Then they combine the egg cell (with no nucleus) with the nucleus from the somatic body cell, thus making the clone.

Scientist, Ben Hive, clones the first worker bee on January 17th. The Obeecity government believes and encourages citizens that this is a necessary step in improving the state of the economy. Although, the only Queen may die in the process of cloning which would leave the colonies unfulfilled.

“This is a monumental step for both our society and the world. The production of bees will boost our economy and provide many trade opportunities,” said Beatrice Sabeenia.

According to Beatrice, the next step into creating a world with bees, is cloning the Queen. However, this poses a threat to the already limited population of bees in the Dome because of the simple fact that there is only one Queen Bee left. The worker bees are dying at a rapid rate.

There is a high possibility that the bees being will die in the process of cloning. The odds are highly stacked against the Obeecity scientists to clone the Queen before she dies or the entire worker bee population dies because of how long the cloning process is.

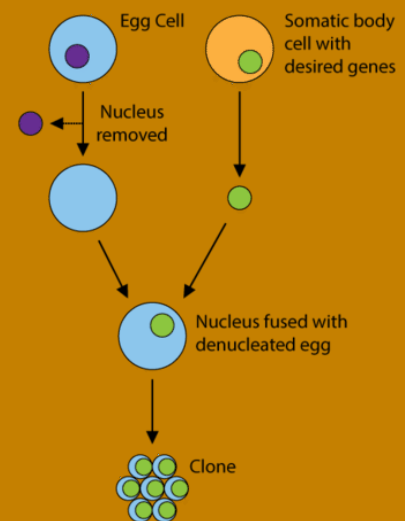
“Our next obstacle to overcome is the cloning of the Queen. A colony of bees cannot survive with out a Queen to lead them and we only have one left,” Beatrice said in a press conference.

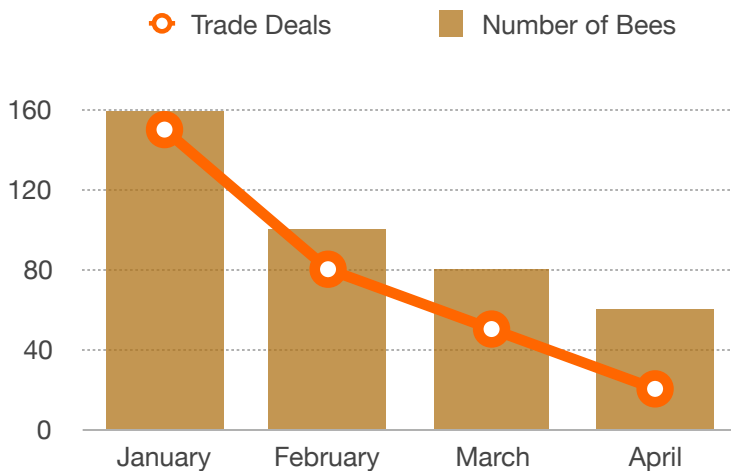
If the scientists can manage to clone multiple Queens, the colony would logistically increase. However, the colony has to accept the Queen, so the laboratory would have to make multiple Queens in case the colony rejects and kills the Queen.

Citizens of Obeecity become more and more worried each day. Although the cloning of worker bees is a huge scientific advancement, citizens are overcome with anxiety at the possibility of losing the Queen.

“If we lose the Queen, we lose everything. Don’t get me wrong, I am very thrilled at the possibility of cloning worker bees, but we have had the same Queen for a while and she is bound to pass any day now. We can clone as many bees as we like, but without a Queen, all of our experiments would be for nothing. Plus the process of cloning takes a while and the population of bees inside

Obeecity Conducts Lab Research Into Cloning Bees





the dome are decreasing rapidly. Our society would be completely worthless without the bees because all of our trade deals would be useless,” said Bella Sting, a science teacher at the Obeecity School.

The number of bees in the dome are decreasing at an alarming rate which makes the push to clone even more necessary. If the scientists are unable to clone the Queen, it is predicted that by April that the trade deals and the number of bees would be an ultimate

low.

Sabeena has tried to ease the anxiety of the citizens, but has remained widely unsuccessful. The unfulfilled promises made by the Obeecity Government has only planted more suspicion and distrust in the community.

“Sabeena has promised to speed up the cloning process, but it is practically February and the number of bees in the dome is decreasing and we are no further in the process of cloning the Queen. Polititions tell us that they are on a verge of a ‘major breakthrough’ but that still remains unfound. I am starting to become unsure that they are even conducting research at all,” said Beelina Swarm, a local advocate for a speedy investigation into the actual progress of the research.

“I work in the laboratory that research and works on cloning bees and I can assure you that we are spending night and day trying to clone more bees. Currently, we are devising a plan of action to clone the Queen, but the process is delicate and intricate. Patience is the key in this experimental process,” lab worker, Blake Nest said.

If the Obeecity Scientists and Government cannot figure out a way to productively and efficiently clone multitudes of bees at a time, the economy will plummet and the future of society will become jaded.

Chaos Erupts in the Outskirts as the Government Takes Away Food Deliveries

By: Hanna Enomoto / News Writer

A father and his two sons were shot to death by government officials for trying to escape The Bounds, and illegally enter Obeecity. They began their journey at night, but were caught when they reached the wall and had no form of identification nor reason to be inside.

“I would have done the same thing if I had kids. Things started out okay, but now with increasingly less living space and a higher demand for food, everything has gone awry,” Elouise Winslow, 27 year old who got placed in the outskirts two years ago, wrote during the aftermath of the killings at the wall.



The ruinous outside city popped up five years ago when it became apparent only the wealthy would be able to sustain a comfortable lifestyle. Residency in Obeecity costs \$1 million with an additional annual fee of \$100,000. The city outside The Wall receives one truck of packaged food per week, but with over 10,000 inhabitants, resources are limited. “People have begun to fight for the limited resources we are allotted, and with Obeecity increasing its requirements to enter, everyone is on edge,” added Winslow.

Winslow is one of several residents beginning to see the injustice the citizens outside Obeecity face, and are starting to take a stand. Animosity towards their lacking resources combined with no formal government structure has led to continued riots and destruction of property.

In an interview with the mayor of Obeecity, Beetrice Sabeena, said she initially advocated for the sharing of resources with them, but after the recent attacks, she does not know if they will be able to continue. The last delivery man received verbal and physical abuse, and had to escape back to Obeecity before delivering all of the food because his life was in danger.

“It is unlikely Obeecity will be able to provide The Bounds with resources every week if the harassment continues.”

The popular attitude of hatred and hostility has been raging through the outskirts ever since the impoverished has been expelled. However, the citizens of the outside city have been tuning into the radio broadcast in the main city, and heard a disturbing announcement from the government. The shattering news that the food distribution in the outside city would be cancelled for this week was illegally discovered, and quickly spread throughout the ruins.



Riots, violence, and strikes have occurred because of the food truck not arriving on Monday. Many have threatened attacks on Obeecity if the food trucks cease to provide the citizens of the outskirts with food and supplies.

Obeecity has released a press statement to the main and outside city on Tuesday announcing the food truck would not bring resources anymore if the chaos continues. It continued by saying they are going to take an increase in security measures due to the daily threats of harassment and violence towards the citizens of the main city.

“Obeecity’s safety is my number one concern, and that can only be achieved if we increase the security at The Wall, and make it harder for people to sneak in,” added Sabeena.

Her new plans of security include anti-climbing mechanisms by ladder or hooks, prevent tunneling six feet underground, thick concrete walls that would take an hour to cut through, a see through side to watch activity in the outside city, and the wall will be built up to 30 feet tall. Along with increasing



the requirements of The Wall, Sabeena hired more military personnel to be stationed at the entrance and require more than one form of identification before granted access.

In response, rebellious groups such as The Nationless League and The Alliance have taken stands to the injustice they face being outsiders. They have plans to form an army and invade Obeecity if the food shortages continue. Their cause is gaining popularity quickly due to the lack of resources for everyone in the the outside city.

Citizens have begun to fight each other for the remaining food, but with everyone being overweight and not being able to participate in hand-to-hand combat, they have turned to firepower. There have been several raids on the supermarket, and the citizens have begun to bring their guns with them in case anyone tries to steal their food. Additionally, some have snuck into their neighbor's house to ravage through their pantry and steal their remaining food.

The effects of the food shortage in the outskirts has been felt in surrounding cities, but The Nationless League and The Alliance are determined to make Obeecity feel the same suffering and starvation that they have inflicted.

How Our Pollinators Disappeared: What Caused The Decline of Bees

By: Sadie Beaumont / Features Writer

The extinction of bees was predicted a long time ago, and our kind have been turning a blind eye for much too long. With the last bumbles in the world dropping dead every day, it has become evident that planet earth must prepare for a world without bees.

From 1985 to 1997, scientists detected several indications of bees declining; a 57% loss in bees in twelve years. But the biggest one drop was in 2005, when decline became plummet and the population started to panic. Farmers who needed the bees to pollinate their fruits and almond trees cried out to environmentalists to help them. This was later coined as a "pollinator panic," which even resulted in the United States shipping bees overseas to New Zealand.

At the same time, Beatrice Sabeena and her corporation started overseeing the plans of the construction of Obeecity. Her plan relied on the downfall of the honeybee and the uprise of chemically engineered food that would lead to the numbing of the mind and morbid obesity.

Two years later, pesticides were identified as what was thought to be the most destructive cause to colony declines, but now other causes are under investigation- to no prevail, it seems. Other causes, like cell towers and cell phones, invading bugs and mites, dangerous fungus, a pandemic bee virus, climate change, and air pollution are also likely suspects.

Sabeena and her growing army planted a seed in the minds of the people. She wanted the world convinced that pesticides were the main threat to our bee population, so that her work would go unnoticed and the bee population would still drop.



In 2008 and 2009, the investigation dove into the threat of pesticides, and the Natural Resources Defense Council pressed charges against the Environmental Protection Agency, accusing them of holding information from the public about a pesticide produced and used by Bayer Crop Science, which they later published for the people to see. Alternatively, many campaigns were launched to spread awareness about how important bees are to our foods. Companies like Haagen-Dazs and Co-operative, the biggest grocery store chain in the UK, began to raise awareness through social media and they boycotted the pesticide that was accused of affecting the bees because of a certain chemical they used: neonicotinoid.

Meanwhile, the UK was launching their “Plan Bee” campaign, boycotting neonicotinoid, and Germany, Italy, and France also stopped utilizing the chemical. Two years later, the UK experienced a 18% decline in bees during a particularly bad winter.

In 2011, scientists tried to relate pesticides to bees sealing off the honeycombs in an attempt to save their dying beehive. Many thought it was an effect of pesticides, but no connection could be made. After failing to establish a connection, scientists exercised the idea that instead of one major factor, many small things could be affecting the bees all at once, such as the increase of pesticides combined with a species of invasive fungi and mites.

Neonicotinoid was proven to be a major factor in bee death in 2012. In addition to the killer chemical, pesticide treated seeds combined with the fact that the pesticides make bees more susceptible to viruses. On a positive note, Italy, in contrast with the UK, reported that their ban on neonicotinoids resulted in less colony collapses. In attempt to make up for their secret production of neonicotinoid, Bayer Crop Science created various bee centers to conduct research on elements that might aid them.

AVAAZ, a company rooted in the need to bring people together worldwide, produced a petition in support of the worldwide ban of neonicotinoid, and it collected 1.4 million signatures in Europe and the US alone. Today, the petition has over 3.2 million signatures and is mainly housed in Buzzmark, North Dakota, as the chemical neonicotinoid has proven to be deadly to humans over time as well.

In later 2012, environmentalists in the UK failed to get neonicotinoid banned in the country and accused their Parliament of turning a cheek. In the US, the Environmental Protection Agency tried for the same ban, and was forced to settle for a review process, which would take several years.

The next year, Europe successfully banned neonicotinoid for two years, while the US was still reviewing the chemical. Bayer Crop Science was still trying to improve its public image by including packets of wildflower seeds with their pesticides. The COES journal, (Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability), published an analysis that proved that there are many ways bees are being exposed to pesticides, more that farmers and politicians have ever known. The

Beatrice Sabeena and her Cabinet addresses the public regarding the status of the dome



writers end with saying that bee-friendly alternatives to pesticides and mandatory, or the collapse of bees will be unavoidable.

Only a few months later, a bee massacre made international news. Several photographs depicting thousands of dead bees in a Target parking lot helped raise awareness about protecting our pollinators from pesticides, as the cause of the deaths were determined to be a neonicotinoid-based pesticide sprayed on trees in the lot.



Obama launched a campaign in 2014 to raise awareness about bee protection, In June, the White House made a statement:

"Pollination is integral to food security in the United States," it said. "Honey bees enable the production of at least 90 commercially grown crops in North America. Globally, 87 of the leading 115 food crops evaluated are dependent on animal pollinators."

His efforts were appreciated, but too late. Since 1947, the number of beehives and colonies in the United States have dropped from 6 million to 2.5 million. It is a devastating amount that seemed impossible to recover.

In 2018, with the bee population down a significant amount, Sabeena put her plan into action and released her 'henchmen'. She had her corporation genetically engineer thousands of invasive mites with a virus specifically bred to wipe out the honeybee population. The already-decreasing species plummeted, and while some scientists scrambled to put up safe spots to preserve the pollinators, the population was already doomed.

Bees have been dying at an alarming rate for 12 years, and the people of the world have been too caught up in their own problems to make an effort to prevent it. Crops have been failing, and although farmers have taken it upon themselves to pollinate their crops, it is simply too large of a task to complete. The salvation of the bees is simply an unsurpassable task, and the world's food supply is destined to fall at the hands of Sabeena.

The Effects of Bee Depletion: What Needs To Be Done To Save Humanity

By: Sydney Blum / Editorial Writer

Bees have been practically extinct now for 5 years, since 2025, and humanity is in desperate need for a solution to decaying vegetation. Bees pollinated 70% of crops and now that the bee species has depleted, those entire crops have died, along with the animals that depended on them.



Due to the chemically produced food, 99% of the population is obese and the government has made no attempts to solve this problem.

The mayor of Obeecity, Beatrice Sabeena, spoke out last month on the situation, although her solutions were unclear. In her weekly address to the public, Mayor Sabeena brought up the obesity problem, stating, "I know many of you have problems concerning the 'Bee Relocation.' I do believe that we need a change to occur if the population wants to live beyond age 50. Therefore, I propose an implementation of new technology to fix this situation." Although the promise of change was made, there was no explanation of what the technology would be, or how the new science would affect the people of Obeecity.

To address the problem of the bees, what should be done is the creation of dome in the center of the city that houses the remaining 30% of crops that do not Children should get at least 60 minutes of exercise of moderate intensity physical activity 7 days a week.require pollination, therefore allowing the people of the city to observe the rations and make sure everyone is getting an equal amount.



Phoebee Applebee, a resident of Obeecity, talks about her opinion on the shares provided by the government. She believes that "the government isn't telling the truth when it comes to how much the people of Obeecity, who aren't either government officials or rich billionaires, are receiving." As a single mother to children Rubee, 6, and Beecon, 4, Phoebee finds it difficult to make sure her children stay healthy enough for school. The required weight maximum to attend school is two hundred and eighty pounds, with most children varying between one hundred and eighty to two hundred and sixty pounds. Children who weigh over two hundred and eighty pounds are forced to take online schooling, which many believe actually makes the problem of obesity in the country worse.

Children should get at least 60 minutes of exercise of moderate intensity physical activity 7 days a week.

Beebee Honey, a high school teacher in Obeecity, noticed a decline in student performance, and "as weight increased, and students were sent home to learn online, the average test scores decreased. I believe that when kids aren't at school, they have less motivation to learn as well as move around. At school they must walk from at least class to class but at home on the computer, all they need to get up for is food and the lavatory."

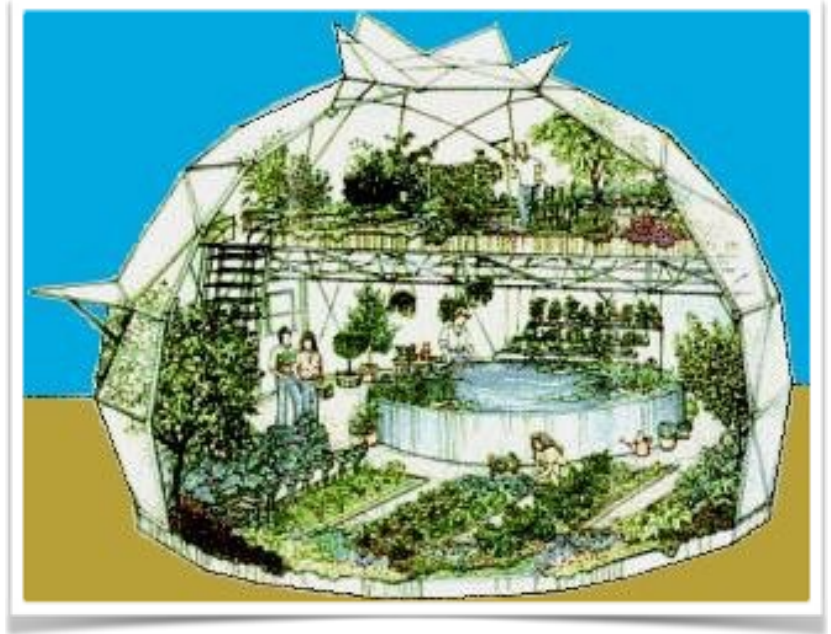
Ms. Honey is right, and unfortunately the government has taken no steps in the right direction to solving this problem. In actuality, steps have been taken in the wrong direction, increasing obesity and decreasing the need for exercise. A few weeks earlier, the government released new plans to convert the ordinary apartment into a one-room living space, with everything one needs in everyday life in arm's reach. This includes an adjustable seat that converts to a toilet and a desk that contains kitchen appliances, such as a microwave and refrigerator. The reasoning behind these new accommodations includes the promise of places specifically used for exercise and healthy choices.

Although these changes sounds promising, the amount of people are who homeless in



Obeecity is probably the reason for this modification. Approximately 10% of the people are living on the streets, and 20% are living on other's couches and the floors of others' homes. These new one-room homes will increase the amount of places for individual people. The price will also go down for a family who decides to buy multiple, as only one person can stay in each room. If the government continues to plan these new homes, and push aside the food situation, people will become angrier as the situation increases, which may lead to rioting and protesting.

As a solution to the ration problem, the "Crop Dome" will contain all crops that don't need to be pollinated. The dome will work as a greenhouse, caring for the plants. People can volunteer in the dome, but are monitored as to prevent extra helpings of the food to any one person. There will be certain times for groups of people to pick up their serving of food, and proof of citizenship to Obeecity will be required. This dome will prevent future disagreements and help all the people of Obeecity to receive their portion of the world's last crops.



How Pesticides Affect The Daily Human Lifestyle

By: Hallie Humbert / News Writer

As the annual bee hive population decreased, human dependency upon chemically driven pesticides and insecticide has unfortunately increased. As the only toxic substance that is consciously and routinely let into our atmosphere, pesticides can be derived into a series of subcategories to better target their unwanted guests. Herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, rodenticides all specialize in the elimination of pests and nuisances to the human population's agricultural. However, like most, this elimination comes at a very large cost.

It is these very pesticides that have a toll upon our ecosystem, soil, crops, and general health. These chemical infiltrate our homes, communities, parks, schools, and offices without our knowing. In fact, it is quite difficult to find an area in which these chemical have not found a home. The most well known and unfortunate side effect of these pesticides is how much of an impact they have upon the environment and pollution standards. Because utilizing chemicals to assist with agricultural development for over a century, there is a buildup of pollution that continues to increase-even to this very day.

Once a pesticide has contact its intended surface, it can then spread easily to water supplies, soil, and air for any organisms consumption. Chemicals whose intention is to kill off specific organisms has now infiltrated our daily lives through unaware consumption, proving dangerous to all

individuals it comes in contact with. However this issue is often ignored for in order for certain chemicals to properly function, they must be immersed within the soil. While this “traveling” of pesticides is not uncommon or unexpected by any means, individuals do have the ability to minimize their harmful effects.

Organic, safer, and softer alternatives are being introduced more frequently in the hopes that someday harsh pesticides will be eliminated altogether. The relationship between healthy, pure soil and nutritious food is vital, and the infiltration of these chemicals, even if they are correctly functioning and minimizing the presence of pest, deplete the quality of a nation's agricultural resources.

These pesticides have supplied large corporations with a lifeline that seems to justify product quality to quantity. As the need to mass production increases, larger agricultural sectors will focus more on maintaining a larger, low grade crop than a smaller, healthier, more nutritious one. This quantity over quality compromise many companies have made is a large cause for the lack of nutritional value trend the international has been viewing over the past decade and a half.

However, this issue stretches much farther than crops, often contradicting what most individuals think. Research proves that pesticides are found in over one third of our food, and expand far beyond the world of traditional crops and agriculture. Examples such as apples, baby food, bread, cereal bars, fresh salmon, lemons, lettuces, peaches, nectarines, potatoes and strawberries are large contributors to the human digestion of these pesticides or insecticides.

The digestion of these chemical leads to a long list of possibly fatal diseases and health risks. Stated within the Pesticides Literature Review, a multi-university research team in Toronto, concludes, "people should reduce their exposure to pesticides because of links to serious illnesses. The range of long to short term health effect pesticides has upon a population is quite drastic, and can range from headaches and nausea to chronic impacts like cancer, reproductive harm, and endocrine disruption. Results of this study found consistent evidence of serious health risks such as cancer, nervous system diseases and reproductive problems in people exposed to pesticides...through home and garden exposure."

Ties between the ingestion of pesticides and neurological disorders such as Parkinson's disease, childhood leukemia, lymphoma, asthma and more can torment family homes. In conjunction with this, scientist James Cleeton believes that "women with breast cancer are five to nine times more likely to have pesticide residues in their blood than those who do not". Long term goals should be to eliminate these chemicals in their entirety, by upgrading to non-GMO, organic alternatives. This will ensure better health and tasting quality, along with safety for all consumers. Stricter testing legislation at both the local and federal level has been proposed to combat the increase of pesticide use, and will continue as long as these chemicals remain an unfortunate aspect of our society.

The Effects of Pesticides on the Bee Population

