A crisis without numbers-global insect mortality

→ **In this flyer general information about the loss of species of insects, as well as studies, which prove this phenomenon, will be thematized.**

→ By Annika Pracht, GyG19

https://unsplash.com/photos/2xhOYKK-jAM

General information

- Number and weight of animals may vary depending on the region and climatic change

→ Insect biodiversity is declining in many regions worldwide

- red list shows that insect species are threatened worldwide
- In contrast to warm countries, the biomass of insects increases in colder countries be-cause the temperature rises there as well
- Researchers estimate an annual loss of 2.5 percent of the global insect biomass

Studies that prove this phenomenon

- According to the 2018 survey by the University of Sydney, 41 percent of insect species are declining and one-third of insect species are threatened with extinction
- Studies show that wild bees, moths, beetles and other insect species are declining in North America and Europe
- Study shows that biomass loss of insects, spiders, scorpions and millipedes in Puerto Rico ranged from 78 percent to 98 percent over a 36-year period
- Compared to mammals, for example, insects have hardly been researched
- 73 studies show that 31 percent of insects are threatened and 41 percent of insect populations are declining
- 56 studies show that 28 percent of earth-dwelling insect species are threatened and that 38 percent of these species are declining

https://unsplash.com/photos/oi5pPHISp_w

Causes and the most threatened species

- Biodiversity of insect species decreases by 30 percent due to agriculture
- it has been proven that agriculture has a negative impact on insect biodiversity
- more area to be farmed also means more pesticides are used
- Animal or plant species that need pristine habitats to survive became extinct

→ flightless beetles are more threatened compared to flyable beetles, as they cannot migrate as quickly to better areas due to their lower mobility

→ the smaller the beetles are, the more threatened they are compared to larger beetles

https://unsplash.com/photos/906sxg0humM

→ Sources: Insektenatlas, pages 14 and 15

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.