

Ardene's Buzzing about Bees

We're all abuzz because we're excited to announce that we now have bees! We have partnered with Miel MTL to welcome two of our very own beehives to our garden, with about 10,000 bees per hive. Miel MTL is dedicated to saving bees locally with their hive partnership program, and we are happy to work with them as they educate us while ensuring that our fuzzy little friends thrive in their new home. Along with other pollinators, bees are vital to the world, so we are proud of this initiative because every bit helps!

Importance of Honeybees

Honeybees are critical to the well-being of the entire planet, because they are the world's most important pollinator. They help different species co-exist by helping their ecosystems flourish, so there would be no biodiversity without them. That's why we want to do our part, at work and at home, to help protect them.

What can we do at home?

Fun fact – did you know that bees are the only insect that recognize people's faces? If you remain calm around them and visit them frequently, they will recognize you and leave you alone, but if you're mean to them, they'll remember and behave aggressively every time they see you. This is even more reason to avoid swatting at them, but there are also other little things we plan to try at home to encourage the bees to thrive.

- Plant bee-friendly flowers to attract them – any sweet-smelling option will do but sunflowers are always a favorite.
- Don't use chemicals and pesticides in your garden.
- Let your weeds grow. Dandelions too. Bees love them!
- Put some water out for them. They also get thirsty on a hot day.

Above all, don't be scared. Bees aren't out to get you; they're not wasps. They are friendly little vegetarians who only want your pollen, not to sting you. If they buzz on over, stay still and let them check you out before they carry on with their day. They're out to save the world after all!