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## Introduction

Insects are often underestimated and overlooked, but their significance cannot be overstated. They play an indispensable role in pollination, soil health, nutrient recycling, and pest control. Bees, butterflies, and other pollinators ensure the reproduction of flowering plants, enabling the production of fruits, vegetables, and seeds that form the basis of our food systems. Insects also serve as a crucial link in the food chain, providing sustenance for countless other species.

Intensive agricultural practices eliminate critical food sources and nesting sites. Pesticide use, particularly neonicotinoids, affects insect physiology and behaviour, leading to reduced populations. Climate change alters the timing of plant flowering and disrupts the delicate ecological balance on which insects rely. Light pollution, invasive species, and air pollution further compound the threats facing these remarkable creatures.

## Consequences for ecosystems and human survival

The loss of insects has profound consequences for our ecosystems. Declining pollinator populations directly impact food production, threatening global food security. Without sufficient pollination, yields of fruits, vegetables, and nuts decrease, compromising both quantity and quality.

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