Talking Biotech: Recruiting bees as soldiers in the war on plant pests

The relationship between pollinators and crop protection strategies has always pitted them against each other, with concern about how insecticides and herbicides might affect charismatic non-target insects like bees. A new technology by the company Bee Vectoring Technologies rewrites the definition to the relationship.

In this approach, bees exit the hive to deliver a fungicide to the flower, a biological control that competes against pathogenic fungi that start their damage early in fruit development. On this episode, I speak with representatives from the company about the technology, its application, and its safety with regard to pollinators and the environment.

Company website: BeeVt.com

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