Insect Apocalypse

Two scientific studies carried out in Denmark and England have shown that there has been a huge decline in the abundance of insects. The “splatometer” tests, which observe the number of insects “splattered” on car windows, show that in rural Denmark, the insect population fell by a staggering 80 percent between 1997 and 2017. In Kent, England, a similar test carried out in 2019 showed that there had been a 50% drop in the amount of insect impacts since 2004. These studies are further evidence of what is being called an “Insect Apocalypse”. Insects are crucial to the earth’s ecosystem as they pollinate three quarters of the world’s crops. Without this pollination, we may face a disaster in the natural world, which will threaten all life on earth. Leading entomologists claim this rapid decline has been caused by the destruction of insects’ natural habitats, pesticides, climate change and global warming, as well as increased light and air pollution. While the vast majority of scientific studies have shown similarly worrying results, most research has only been carried out in North America and Europe, so it has not yet been established if insect populations have fallen in a similar way in other climates such as Southeast Asia and South America.

Q1 What is the main idea of the text?
A Insect populations have fallen dramatically.
B Insects are destroying the natural world.
C Climate change must be dealt with immediately.
D Pollination is crucial to our world.

Q2 Which of the following is true according to the text?
A England and Denmark are the only countries to have carried out similar tests.
B Denmark only carried out the experiment in the city.
C Populations fell more in Denmark than in England.
D There is only one factor to blame for falling population if insects.

Q3 Which of the following is not true according to the text?
A South America has had no decline in insect population.
B Insects pollinate three quarters of the world’s crops.
C Without insects, the natural world faces a crisis.
D Pollution is a cause for falling insect populations.
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