

Pollinator Protection Plan

Commercial Pesticide Applicators
Field & Forage ♦ 1A Meeting
@ Middlebury April 2, 2015

Pollinator Protection Plans:
Future Directions For Vermont
&
The Role for Pesticide Applicators

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Pollinator Protection Plans

What's All The Buzz?
Why Does This Matter?

States with the most hives in summer

Almonds Bearing Area, California, 1970-2012

STANISLAUS ALMOND ACREAGE

The Pesticides Piece of the Puzzle

1) EPA Responsible for National Approved Labels & Product Registrations

2) Vermont Authority related to Bees: ?

- Apiary Inspection Program *1
- Bee Hive Registration & Inspection
- Pesticide Control Program *2
- Product Registration, Use Inspections
- Applicator / Dealer Training & Licenses

3) Vermont's Relationship w/ EPA and Other State Pesticide Regulators

USDA National Level Approach

The "5 Pillars" of Honey Bee Health

- Biology
- Nutrition & Habitat
- Pathogens & Pests *1
- Pesticides *2
- Genetics & Breeding

Pollinator Labels & Regulations

1. Current Pesticide Labeling For Bees (by EPA) (Neonicotinoid Insecticides)

the "Bee Box"

Jan. 2014

2. Future "Bee" Labels . . . ? * Addn'l Use Patterns / Application Sites & Chemistry / Active Ingredients

Proposed New Label Statements: Special Bee Restrictions ... ARE MORE LABEL STATEMENTS THE RIGHT FIX ?

THE NEW EPA BEE ADVISORY BOX

On EPA's new and strengthened pesticide label to protect pollinators

PROTECTION OF POLLINATORS

APPLICATION RESTRICTIONS used for this product because of risk to bees and other insect pollinators. FOLLOW APPLICATION RESTRICTIONS PROVIDED IN THE DIRECTIONS FOR USE TO PROTECT POLLINATORS.

Alerts users to separate restrictions on the label. These prohibit certain pesticide use when bees are present.

The new bee icon helps signal the pesticide's potential hazard to bees.

Makes clear that pesticide products can kill bees and pollinators.

Bees are often present and foraging when plants and trees flower. EPA's new label makes it clear that pesticides cannot be applied until all pesticide have fallen.

Warns users that direct contact and ingestion could harm pollinators. EPA is working with beekeepers, growers, pesticide companies, and others to advance pesticide management practices.


Highlights the importance of avoiding drift. Sometimes, wind can cause pesticides to drift to new areas and can cause bee kills.

The science says that there are many causes for a decline in pollinator health, including pesticide exposure. EPA's new label will help protect pollinators.

Read EPA's new and strengthened label requirements: <http://go.usa.gov/JH44>


Pollinator Protection Plan

Pollinator Policy



- Presidential Memo - June 2014
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2014/06/25/pollinator-protection>
memorandum creating federal advisory committee health-honey-b
- Executive Branch Pollinator Health Task Force
 Chaired By USDA & EPA
(Applies to All Federal Agencies)
- State Pollinator Plan Team (Requested By EPA)
National Team of State Agriculture Depts.
(June 2014 – Feb 2015)
- Final Federal Strategy/Policy
 March/April 2015 *

For more info on EPA's pollinator protection efforts, visit:
<http://www2.epa.gov/pollinator-protection>



State Pollinator Protection Plans Purpose & Scope

1. Identify Critical & Recommended Elements
2. Build/Expand On Existing State Plans
CA – CO - FL – MI –MN - MS – ND - OR
"Under Construction" (~15) vs. "Thinking About It" (~30)
3. Establish Communication Framework
Create Stakeholder Groups
4. Define Types of Pollinators
"Managed, Native (Wild) and/or Contracted"
5. State Specific Flexibility
For most States, the real work starts Summer & Fall 2015

State Pollinator Protection Plans Critical Elements

1. Create Stakeholder Participation **Talk To Each Other!**
Beekeepers & Growers: Agricultural Partners
2. Notification & Communication
 - A) How To Know If Pollinators Near Treatment Sites?
 - B) How To Identify And Contact Beekeepers?
 - C) Beekeeper & Applicator Shared Responsibility?
3. Design Practices To Minimize Risks To Bees
State/Crop Specific Practices
4. Explain/Define Scope * 2 Risk Categories??
"What & Where - Bees Are Covered"
5. Methods To Evaluate Effectiveness,
 Conduct Periodic Reviews & Updates
(EPA Deal Breaker)

State Pollinator Protection Plans Additional Elements & Problems

1. Strategy For Hives Without Identified Owners
2. Lack of Apiary Inspectors
3. Communication With Crop Advisors & Extension
4. Urban Hives and Non-Ag Pesticide Uses
5. Methods For Agreements
 Between Beekeepers, Growers And Land Owners
 Financial & Non-Financial Deals
\$\$\$ Yes/No ???
6. Defined Plan For Public Outreach & Education



State Pollinator Protection Plans Other Ideas ?

What Is / Will Be Your Role?

