



# What Beekeepers Can Do to Help Protect Bees!

## BEEKEEPERS PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN PROTECTING MANAGED BEES PLACED IN AGRICULTURAL SETTINGS FOR POLLINATION SERVICES AND FORAGING

Do not place hives in fields treated with insecticides that are highly toxic to bees until at least 48 to 72 hours after the application. Be aware of insecticides with longer residual hazards to bees. It has been reported that 50 to 90% of bee deaths occur during the first 24 hours after an application.

*Source: How to Reduce Bee Poisoning from Pesticides*

Follow insecticide label directions when treating hives for pests such as varroa mites. Use caution when using pesticides for controlling pests in and around hives and beekeeping storage areas. Be sure to use pesticides labeled for the intended use of the product and follow all label directions.



Further information on reducing the exposure to bees from pesticides can be found in “How to Reduce Bee Poisoning from Pesticides” - A Pacific Northwest Extension Publication • PNW 591 at: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/crook/sites/default/files/bee2.pdf>



## Communication and Cooperation: Keys to Protecting Bees



- Identify and register hives with the local county agricultural commissioner (CAC).
- Communicate and collaborate with grower.
- Let grower know when and where bees are placed.
- Determine if field was recently treated.
- Ask grower about planned use of pesticides.
- Ensure a clean water source is available for bees.
- Feed bees to prevent long distance foraging.
- Follow pesticide label directions.
- Inspect bees regularly to identify problems early.
- Report suspected loss or harm to bees to the local CAC.



**“Communicate with the grower about developing mutually beneficial solutions to pest control problems while bees are present for pollination services.”**

*Source: How to Reduce Bee Poisoning from Pesticides*

Identify hives and register apiaries with the local CAC and report loss from pesticide related bee incidents to the CAC.

Contact the local county agricultural commissioner at: <http://www.cdffa.ca.gov/exec/county/countymap/>

