



What Pesticide Applicators Can Do to Help Protect Bees!

PESTICIDE APPLICATORS CAN HELP PROTECT BEES BY IMPROVING COMMUNICATION



Communication and collaboration between pesticide applicators, growers, pest control advisers, beekeepers and local county agricultural commissioners (CACs) help keep managed bees, their hives and habitat safe.



In an ongoing effort to protect bees and other pollinators, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has developed new pesticide labels that prohibit use of some neonicotinoid pesticide products where bees are present. The new labels have a “bee advisory box” and icon with information on routes of exposure and spray drift precautions to protect bees.

Communication and Cooperation: Keys to Protecting Bees



- Identify hive locations within a one-mile radius of treatment site.
- Notify beekeeper of pesticide applications that are toxic to bees.
- Be aware of pesticides that affect pollinators — follow the label.
- Understand pollinator visitation habits and time applications.
- Consider applying pesticides with short residual toxicity to bees.
- Do not spray or drift onto hives with any pesticide.
- Choose sprayer and nozzle technologies designed to reduce drift.
- Avoid applying pesticides to sites when bees are foraging.

“Bees that come in contact with sprayed plant protection products will not be able to fly because of the weight of the droplets on their wings.”

Source: How to Reduce Bee Poisoning from Pesticides

Contact the local county agricultural commissioner for apiary location and beekeeper notification information. Alert beekeeper of planned application of pesticides that are labeled “toxic to bees” 48 hours prior to the application.

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

More information: “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>

