

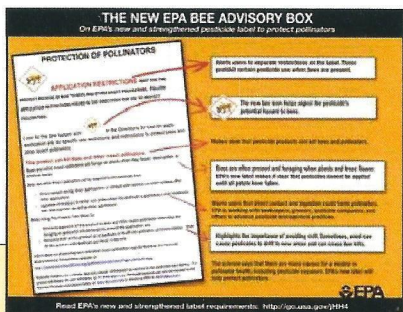


# What pesticide applicators can do to help protect bees!

## PESTICIDE APPLICATORS CAN HELP PROTECT BEES BY IMPROVING COMMUNICATION



Communication and collaboration between pesticide applicators, growers, pest control advisers, beekeepers and the local agricultural commissioner (CAC) help keep managed bees, their hives and habitats safe.



In an ongoing effort to protect bees and other pollinators, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has developed 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 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
- Avoid “hitting” flying bees with any spray application materials

*“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 (CAC) for apiary location and beekeeper notification information. Alert beekeeper of planned pesticide applications that are labeled “toxic to bees” 48 hours prior to the application.

▶▶▶ Contact the local county agricultural commissioner (CAC) by visiting the California Department of Food and Agriculture website at: <http://www.cdffa.ca.gov/exec/county/countymap/>



▶▶▶ 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://www.cdffa.ca.gov/files/pdf/ReduceBeePesticideEffects.pdf>





**PEST CONTROL ADVISERS  
CAN HELP PROTECT  
MANAGED BEES BY  
SHARING INFORMATION**



Communication and cooperation between pest control advisers (PCAs), growers, applicators, beekeepers and the local agricultural commissioners (CACs) can help keep managed bees, their hives and habitats 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.

For more information and to learn what EPA is doing to protect pollinators go to:

<http://www.epa.gov/pollinator-protection>



**Communication and Cooperation-  
Keys to Protecting Bees**

- Be aware of pesticides that affect pollinators

EPA's residual time to 25% bee mortality (RT25) data can be used as a means of gauging the relative lengths of time that pesticide products may remain toxic to bees and other pollinators following application of these products to plants.

Go to: <https://www.epa.gov/pollinator-protection/residual-time-25-bee-mortality-rt25-data>



- Understand bee visitation habits and relay to applicators

It is helpful to apply pesticides when bees are not flying. Bees are considered to be inactive from one hour after sunset to two hours before sunrise or when the temperature is below 55° Fahrenheit.

- Communicate apiary locations and drift protection strategies to applicators
- Remind applicators to check with CAC to notify beekeepers when recommending pesticides that are labeled “toxic to bees”
- Share pollinator protection information with all stakeholders including label requirements.

*“The underlying cause of most bee poisoning incidents is a lack of awareness, rather than an intent to do harm.” Source: How to Reduce Bee Poisoning from Pesticides*



To determine if beekeepers are within a 1-mile radius of proposed pesticide treatment sites and for apiary notification information contact the local CAC by visiting the California Department of Food and Agriculture at: <https://www.cdafa.ca.gov/exec/county/countymap/>



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://www.cdafa.ca.gov/files/pdf/ReduceBeePesticideEffects.pdf>

