

Utah Managed Pollinator Protection Plan
Best Management Practices

APPLICATORS

Pest control programs can be modified to protect bees without creating economic burden or substantial inconvenience to the applicator. Here are good practices to observe:

Take an IPM approach to pest control. Use economic thresholds to determine when to make pesticide applications. Avoid unnecessary applications.

Read and strictly follow the pesticide label. The pesticide label is designed to ensure the protection of non-target organisms such as honey bees.

Avoid applications when honey bees are actively foraging. Honey bees actively forage during the daylight, when temperatures are above 55° Fahrenheit.

Don't allow pesticides to drift. Drift is the movement of pesticides to non-target sites through the air in the form of mist, particles or vapor.

Before applying a pesticide, identify and notify beekeepers of the application. Pesticide applicators should identify and notify beekeepers within two miles of a treatment area with at least 48 hours notice—if the pesticide used is labeled toxic to honey bees.

**Notifying a beekeeper about a planned application does not exempt applicators from obeying label restrictions. Labels that prohibit the application of the product when bees are foraging must still be followed regardless of prior notification. Also, beekeepers are not required to move their hives as a condition of notification.*

Select products that are lower risk to honey bees if available. Choose products that have lower residual toxicity and formulations that are safer for honey bees.

CONTACTING BEEKEEPERS PRIOR TO PESTICIDE APPLICATION

Currently there is no public database for applicators or landowners to locate beekeepers in their area. Therefore the department suggests that beekeepers are located and notified in the following ways:

Communicate with the landowner. Ask the landowner if bees are on the property or on neighboring properties.

Be cognitive of beehives in your area. Look for beehives or bee flags. If you locate hives, introduce yourself to the beekeeper and exchange information.

Ask neighbors if they keep bees or know others that keep bees.

Contact the department. If you are concerned there are bees in your area, contact the Apiary Program and a honey bee specialist can help you determine if hives are nearby.

UDAF Apiary Program

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