



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON D.C., 20460

OFFICE OF
CHEMICAL SAFETY AND
POLLUTION PREVENTION

DATE: August 12, 2014

Tim Drake, AAPCO President
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Jim Gray, SFIREG Chair
ND Department of Agriculture
Agriculture Chemical Division
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Dear Tim Drake and Jim Gray:

The EPA Office of Pesticide Programs is interested in partnering with your organizations on the development of pollinator protection plans. As you know, the June 20, 2014 Presidential memorandum outlined measures to create a federal strategy to promote the health of honey bees and other pollinators. The memorandum highlights the need for new public-private partnerships and increased citizen engagement. The memorandum has tasked multiple federal agencies to assist in addressing the factors associated with pollinator declines. The memorandum also directs EPA "to engage State and tribal environmental, agricultural and wildlife agencies in the development of state and tribal pollinator protection plans."

Through discussions with the Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC) and your organizations, OPP recognizes that several states have developed pollinator management plans by productively engaging stakeholders within their respective states. These plans serve as examples of effective collaboration between stakeholders at the local level that can lead to reduced pesticide exposure and protection of honey bees while maintaining the flexibility needed by growers to protect crops. EPA appreciates the leadership and expertise shown in developing the existing state pollinator plans. Also EPA believes that such state management plans can help to meaningfully reduce acute exposures to bees within the context of sustainable agriculture. The reports are consistent with those recently implemented by OPP to protect bees from the

- In August 2014, the EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs expressed interest in working with co-regulators on the development of state and tribal pollinator protection plans.
- AAPCO formed Pollinator Protection Plan Committee – Sep 2014

Managed Pollinator Protection Plan (MP3) Purpose

A way to mitigate the risk of pesticides to bees and other managed pollinators, while supporting the use of crop protection; developed through open communication and coordination among key stakeholders, including beekeepers, growers, landowners, pesticide applicators, and pest control operators.



SFIREG Activity

June 2015 - SFIREG Guidance document on MP3 Development

- public stakeholder participation process
- a method for growers/applicators/beekeepers to locate and contact each other
- recommendations on how to minimize risk of pesticides to bees (BMP's tailored for each target)

SFIREG Activity

June 2015 - SFIREG Guidance document on MP3 Development

- a clear defined plan for public outreach
- mechanism to measure effectiveness of an MP³ and a process to periodically review and modify each plan

Available at www.aapco.org

Managed Pollinator Protection Plan (MP3) – SFIREG Guidance

The primary purpose of a state Managed Pollinator Protection Plan (MP3) is to reduce pesticide exposure to bees through timely communication and coordination among key stakeholders, including beekeepers, growers, pesticide applicators, and landowners.

Pesticide exposure can be minimized if pesticide applicators and beekeepers communicate prior to pesticide applications to coordinate activities and allow crop protection products to be used without unreasonable adverse effects to managed pollinators.

It is the intent that such open communication will lead to practices that both mitigate potential pesticide exposure to bees and allow for the management of pests.



Thanks!