Oregon’s Managed Pollinator Protection Plan
Initial Learning Phase

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What help spark the interest in pollinator protection in Oregon?

• In addition to concerns about declining honeybee numbers, Oregon had pesticide incidents (involving either dinotefuran or imidacloprid), bumble bees and linden trees in 2013, 2014 and 2015*.

*Both imidacloprid & clothianidin at one location

In 2013 (Wilsonville) and 2014 (Eugene) shade cloth needed to be applied to trees to prevent further exposure
In February 2015, Oregon prohibited the use of dinotefuran, imidaclorpid, thiamethoxam, or clothianidin, regardless of application method, to linden trees, basswood trees or other *Tilia* species.
Legislative Involvement

• **Pollinator Health Taskforce (2014)** recommendations, including labels should be more risk based /useful to provide RT25.

• HB4139 (2014) requires OSU in consultation with ODA to “to **develop educational materials** regarding best practices for avoiding adverse effects of pesticides on **populations of bees and other pollinating insects.**”

• HB3362 (2015) OSU, in consultation with ODA, shall develop a **pollinator health outreach and education plan** to educate the public regarding the best practices for avoiding adverse effects from pesticides on populations of bees and other pollinating insects.
  
  – Develop a **pesticide use safety plan** to educate the public regarding best practices in the use of pesticides.
  
  – ODA transfer $10.00 /pesticide registration to OSU.
Legislative directive included more than honey bees

Alkali Bee Bed

Leafcutter Bees

Close-up
Oregon Department of Agriculture greatly increased the number of pollinator protection questions on exams.
Limitations:

• Oregon Dept. of Ag. (ODA) does not have a regulatory hive inspection program.

• There is not a hive location or mapping program to help facilitate communication and awareness.

MP3 Solution? Develop a campaign on coexistence and communication between beekeepers, farmers and pesticide applicators. How to include commercial pesticide applicators? Flags?

A Plus

• ODA developed a bee incident reporting system to facilitate public reporting of incidents, HB 3362.
  • Added a 2-1-1- number for after hour incidents.
Current State
Collecting Preliminary Information

- It is anticipated that OSU will be hiring Pollinator Extension Specialist shortly, and currently ODA has a job opening.
- Both OSU and ODA staff have been heavily engaged in pollinator protection education in both urban and agricultural areas.
- ODA has been talking to grower groups and landscapers about possible plan components, and also to individual growers. Need to expand outreach to beekeepers, Farm Bureau and others; have joint meetings.
- May be looking at more of a landscape level, for example – can exposure take place in unexpected areas, such as honey bees going to Christmas trees in the fall to feed on honeydew.

MP3 Programs are designed to be flexible and depend on needs and interests of state.
Evaluating of Data and Outreach needs

- OSU is collecting data from bees, honey, pollen, and brood; and assessing the health and nutritional needs.
- ODA and OSU - insure that applicators and beekeepers have the information they may need.
  - Adequate RT25 data?
  - Which pesticides translocate to nectar and/or pollen?
  - Is it obvious which use patterns and a.i.’ represent higher risk?
Lessons Learned /Advice

• Depending on the complexity of your system it might take longer than you think to develop a plan.

• You might have to have preliminary conversation with beekeepers and growers to decide whether your state wants to make plans crop/crop group specific or more generalized.

• Involvement by the legislature may increase the length of time, but also can provide valuable direction and possibly funding.

• It might be necessary to develop a plan in several phases, in order to have enough time to collect information and feedback.

• Think of the plan as a living document.