



Honey Bee (*Apis mellifera*)



Hunt's Bumble Bee (*Bombus huntii*)



Alkali Bee (*Nomia melaneri*)



Blue Orchard Bee (*Osmia lignaria*)

# Protect Utah's Pollinators

Pollination services provided by native and honey bees are responsible for 35% of agricultural production. Unfortunately, bee populations are often under tremendous pressure from diseases, habitat loss, pests and pesticide misuse. Pesticide applicators, growers and homeowners can take simple measures to reduce or eliminate bee exposure without reducing pesticide efficacy or increasing costs. Below are a few crucial best practices to protect bees.

Avoid applications to blooming plants

If plants in bloom must be sprayed, wait until evening

Don't allow pesticides to drift to non-target areas

Check the "Environmental Hazards" section of the pesticide label. Pesticides that are toxic to bees and have extended residual toxicity (eight or more hours) should never be applied to plants in bloom. Insecticides, fungicides, herbicides and insect growth regulators should not be sprayed on blossoms if possible.

It is always preferable to avoid spraying plants in bloom; however, if the pesticide label permits applications on blooming plants, and an application must be made, wait until the evening when the bees have stopped foraging. Also, use the least hazardous pesticide option and formulation.

During windy conditions the pesticide may be transported to non-target plants. Wait until winds have calmed before applying a pesticide. Great care should be taken when planting pesticide-treated seeds. Avoid seeding in dry soil conditions to prevent dust that may contain the pesticide from drifting onto flowering weeds or other plants.

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Always follow the pesticide label; it is the law!

Utah Department of Agriculture and Food

Managed Pollinator Protection Plan (MP3)



For more information about protecting bees:  
<http://ag.utah.gov/plants-pests/beekeeping.html>

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