

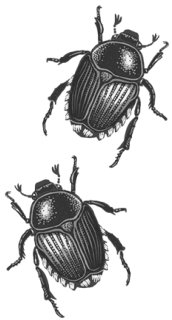
JB Eradication & Pollinator Protection



UDAF will be taking numerous steps to ensure that eradication activities have minimal impacts on bees and other pollinators.

The Japanese beetle is an agriculturally destructive, invasive pest that feeds on over 300 different plants. In 2019 the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF) Invasive Insect Program detected 36 Japanese beetles in Salt Lake County. The program has not detected a Japanese beetle population this large for more than a decade. To ensure that the Japanese beetle does not become established in the state, UDAF has declared an emergency and has prepared an eradication plan.

Pesticide Selected for Project

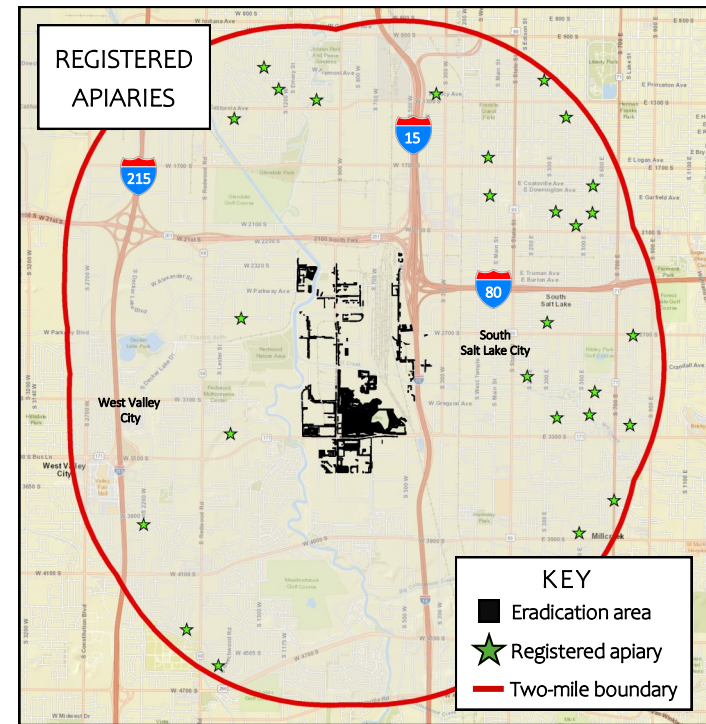


UDAF has selected imidacloprid, a non-restricted use pesticide for the project. The pesticide is proven effective in controlling Japanese beetle and it has low-mammalian toxicity (safe for people and pets). The pesticide is for sale to the public and is a commonly used product.

In recent years, imidacloprid has come under scrutiny for possible impacts on bee health. UDAF takes these concerns seriously and has devised a plan to ensure that the applications will have minimal impacts on pollinators and the environment.

Planned Precautions

- State pesticide enforcement officials will supervise pesticide applications to ensure that all federal and state rules are followed, including those regulations that protect bees and other pollinators. Also, enforcement officials will investigate any reports of bee poisoning due to eradication efforts.
- Area beekeepers registered with UDAF will be notified at least 48 hours prior to applications. They will be provided advice and materials to protect their bees.
- The selected pest control company will be educated by the UDAF Apiary Program on best practices for pollinator protection.
- Where possible, UDAF will use a granular formulation of the pesticide. Granular formulations are considered the least hazardous to bees.
- Liquid applications will not be made on blooming plants.



There are no known apiaries in the eradication area. However beekeepers within two miles will be notified prior to applications.

Other Considerations

- If the Japanese beetle population is eliminated while it is small, pesticide use (and negative impacts to bee health) will be greatly reduced in the long run. Allowing Japanese beetle to spread outside the infestation area will result in nurseries, fruit and vegetable producers, landscape managers and residents making pesticide applications to protect their products, crops, and landscapes from this pest.
- UDAF used imidacloprid in a past eradication effort and did not find a significant impact on honey bees (see “Imidacloprid Residue Analysis of Honeybee Materials in 2007 Orem City Japanese beetle Eradication” document on our webpage).
- Despite reported problems with imidacloprid use in other states and countries, there are no documented cases of the chemical harming honey bee colonies in Utah.



For more information about the JB eradication project

<http://ag.utah.gov/jberadication>

801-972-1669

UDAF-Insects@utah.gov