# The Wisconsin Pollinator Protection Plan

**Agricultural Resource Management Division**
**Agrichemical Management Bureau**
**Plant Industry Bureau**

# Background: Meet the Pollinators

- Insects
  - Butterflies and moths
  - Beetles
  - Flies
  - Wasps
  - **Honey bees**
  - **Wild and native bees**
- Birds
- *(No bat pollinators in WI)*

**One honey bee species** in the U.S., *Apis mellifera*

- Introduced from Europe in 1622

**Many wild bee species** in North America

# Pollinators Need: Nesting

**European honey bee colony**

- Perennial (overwinters)
- 1 queen
- 10,000 – 50,000 workers

**Bumble bee colony**

- Annual (does not overwinter)
- 1 queen
- 50 – 400 workers

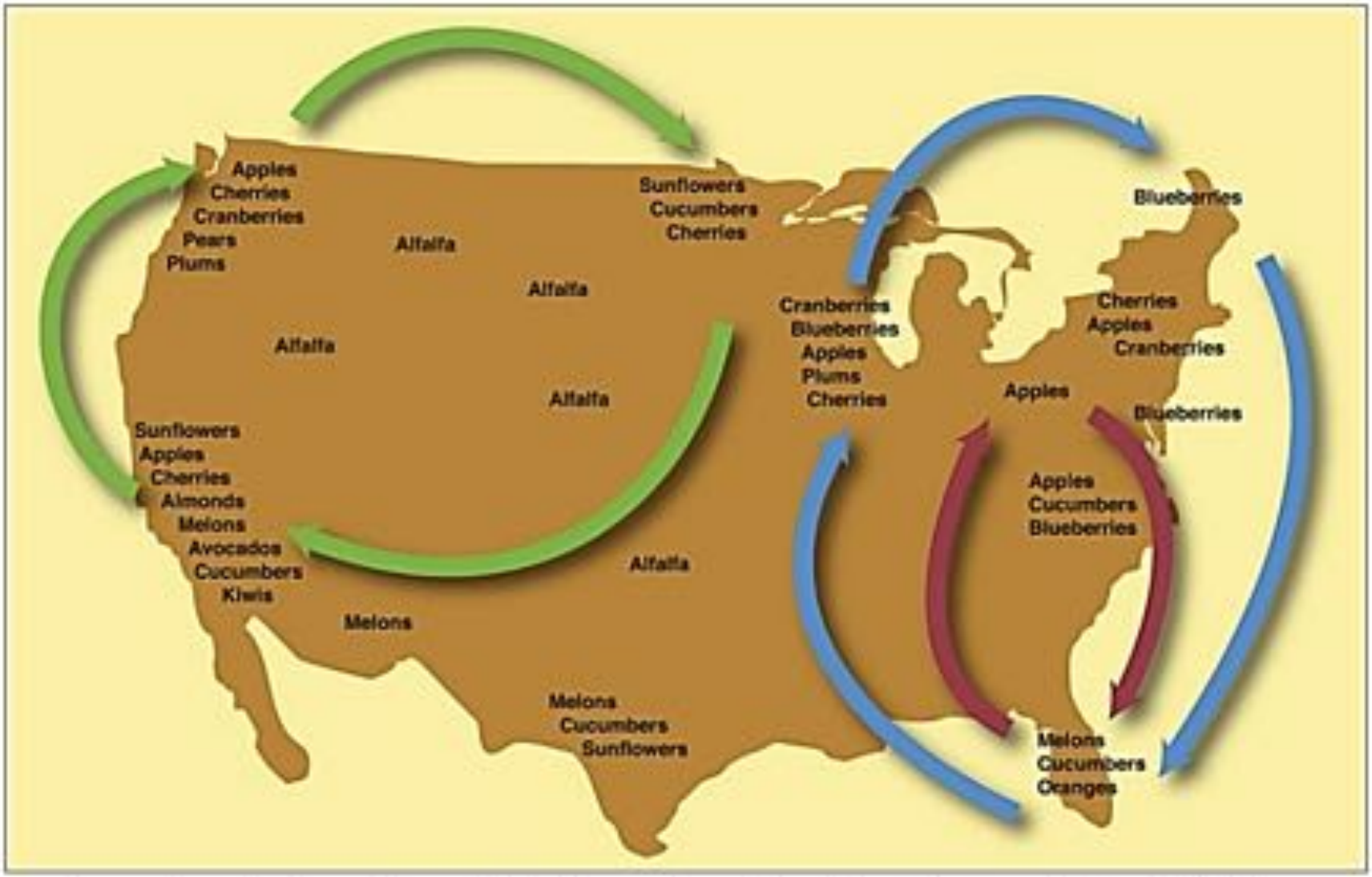
# Pollinators Need: Food

# Why the Concern about Pollinators?

- $15+ billion added crop value
- Colony loss in honeybees


Alleghenysc.org

# Honey bees are Livestock




**Source:** Posted at Person County (NC) Beekeepers Association by Inge Kautzmann, October 28, 2011, http://www.personcountybeekeepers.org/club-news/person-county-takes-1st-place-at-state-fair/.

# Pollinator-dependent Agricultural Commodities





# Causes of Colony Loss


Vt commons

Bell Nurseries

nationofchange.org

# Similar Challenges for Native & Wild Pollinators

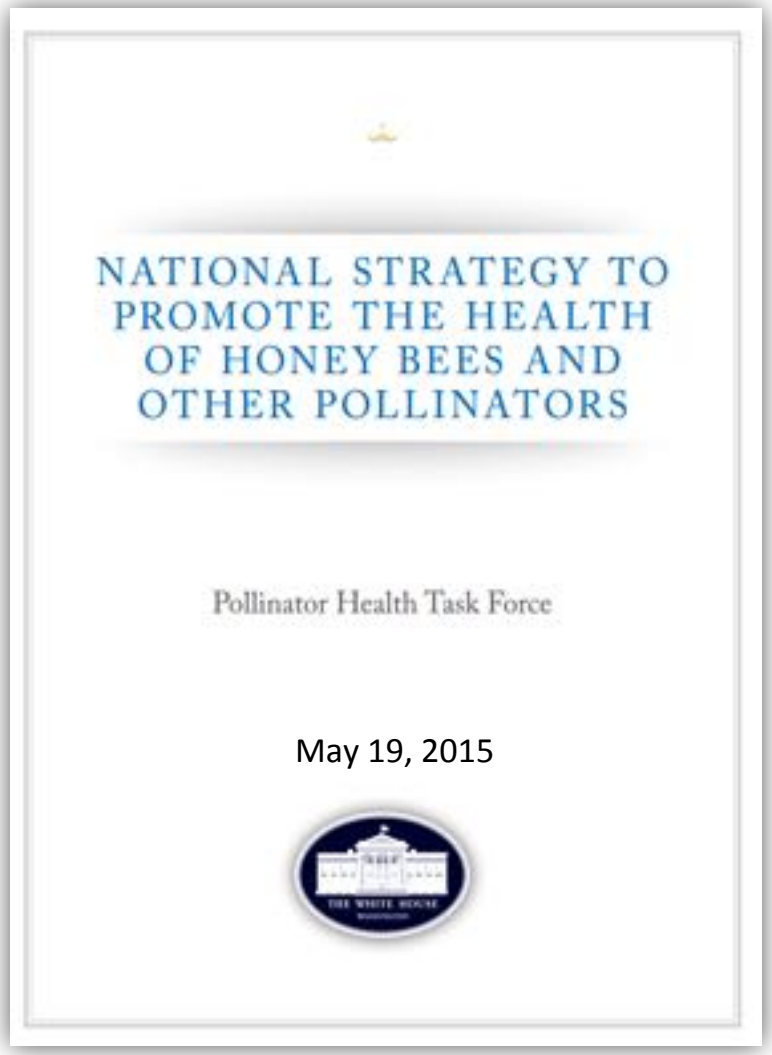
- Wild pollinators can mitigate effects of honey bee losses
- Some native pollinator species are declining
- Factors: habitat loss, intensive farming, extreme weather, pesticide use

# National Honey Bee Surveys

- USDA National Honey Bee Health Survey
  - Farm Bill funded since 2009
  - WI participated in 2011 - 2013, 2015, (2016?)
- BeeInformed.org
  - Annual online survey
    - *Available April 1-30*
  - 2016 will be the 6th year

# National Strategy Goals

- **Honey Bees:** Reduce honey bee colony losses
- **Monarch Butterflies:** Increase the eastern monarch population
- **Pollinator Habitat Acreage:** Restore or enhance 7 million acres of land for pollinators



# EPA Actions

- Consider pollinator impacts in pesticide registration and labeling decisions
- Promoting the development of state and tribal pollinator protections plans

# State Responses to Pollinator Issues

California Code of Regulations (Title 3. Food and Agriculture)
Division 6. Pesticides and Pest Control Operations

Division 6. Pesticides and Pest Control Operations
Chapter 3. Pest Control Operations
Subchapter 2. Work Requirements
Article 3. Protection of Bees

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Oriental Fruit Fly, Mosca de la Fruta: Learn More
Home | Pay Online | About | Divisions & Offices | Forms & Publi
You are here: Home > Consumer Resources > Florida Bee Protection
Adam H. Putnam
Commissioner
Florida Bee Protection
Citrus Greening
Information for Beekeepers
Information for Growers
Bee Removal or Eradication List
Florida Bee Protection

Insect Pollinator Best Management Practices for Minnesota Yards
It's time to look at our landscapes differently
Insect pollinators are in trouble, populations are declining

Oklahoma, Indiana

NORTH DAKOTA POLLINATOR PLAN
Doug Goehring
Agriculture Commissioner

Mississippi, Georgia

# Industry Responses to Pollinator Issues


The Bayer Bee Care Program North America


# Wisconsin's Pollinator Protection Plan

To provide educational resources for Wisconsin stakeholders interested in improving the health and habitat of managed and wild pollinators.

- Scientifically grounded
- Wisconsin focused
- Voluntary

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
FORWARD
WISCONSIN

# Why is DATCP Leading the Effort?

- DATCP Apiary and Pesticide Programs
  - Regular contact with many stakeholders

- DATCP will maintain the plan
  - Stakeholders will revise when needed

- **Partnership between UW Madison, DATCP and Stakeholders**

# Stakeholder Input

Identify beneficial actions for different sectors

- Agriculture
- Industry
- Beekeeping
- Government
- Non-Profits
- The Public

# Goals for Wisconsin's Pollinator Protection Plan

1. Improve public understanding of pollinator health issues and actions that affect pollinators
2. Identify a **voluntary set of actions** that Wisconsin residents, businesses and agencies can take to protect pollinators
3. Increase communication among stakeholder groups – including growers, beekeepers, landowners, pesticide applicators, scientists, agencies and non-governmental organizations

***Meeting #1***

# Strategies for Achieving the Goals

- Expand the quality and quantity of habitat
- Minimize stressors on pollinators
- Increase managed bee hive health and survival
- Increase awareness and implementation of pollinator friendly practices

***Meeting #2***

# Best Management Practices

Four stand-alone sections about:

1. Gardens & Lawns
2. Beekeeping
3. Farms
4. Roadsides and Open Spaces

# Section 1: Improve Habitat in Gardens & Lawns

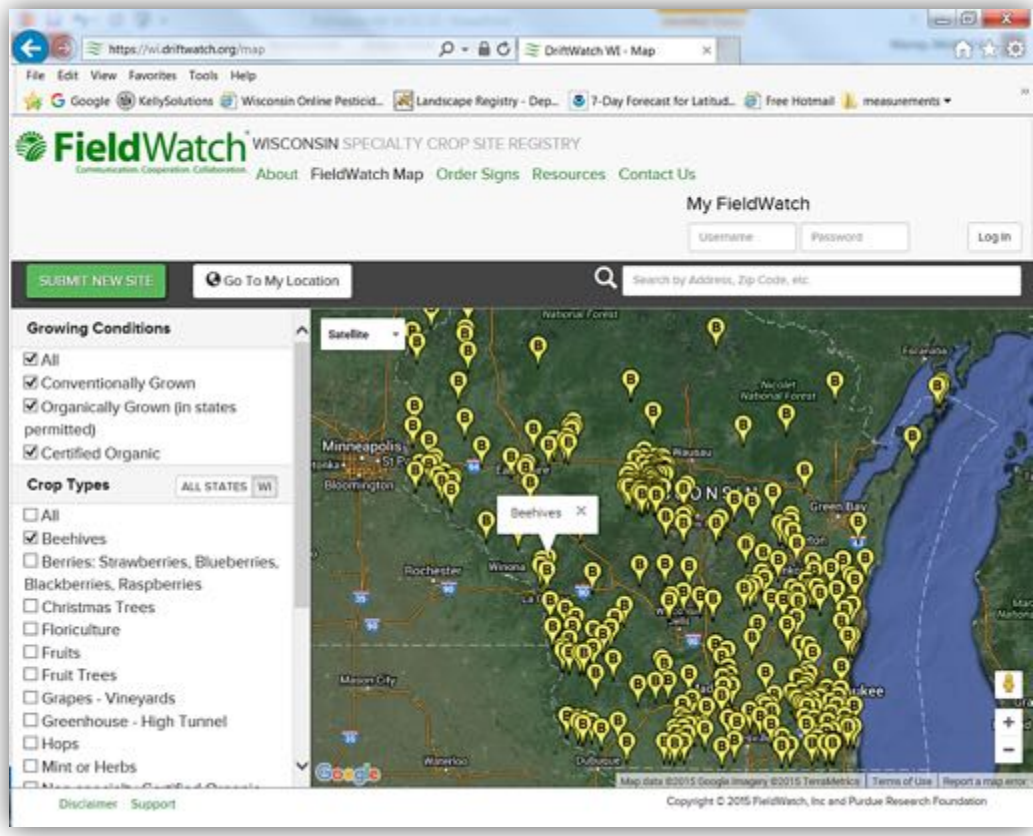
- Habitat quality and quantity
  - Forage and nectar plants
  - Minimum 3 blooming plants at once
  - Nesting areas
- Not all flowers are beneficial for pollinators

# Section 2: Beekeeping to Maximize Pollinator Health

- Habitat and nutrition
- Winter preparation
- Pest and disease management

# Increase Communication Between Landowners and Beekeepers

- Voluntary listing of hives


- Talk to neighbors and beekeepers in your area

# Section 3: Maximize Pollinator Health and Pollinator Services on Farms

- Wild and managed pollinators
- Habitat location and management
  - Cropland
  - Non-crop areas
- Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
  - Use existing best management practices
- Careful with pesticides

# The Pesticide and Application Method Determines the Potential Impacts

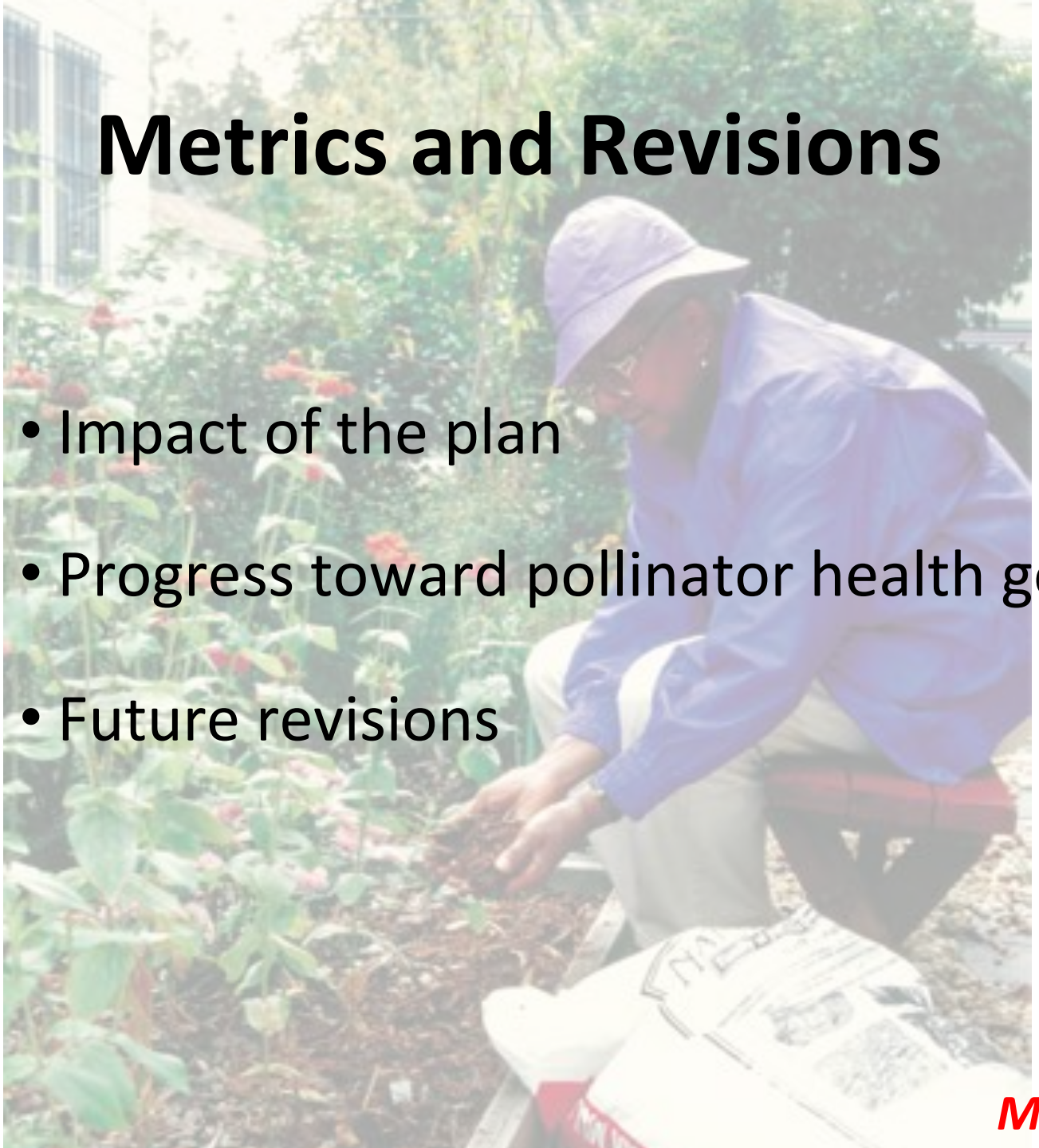

Use pesticides wisely

# Pollinators are Non-Target Species
# Follow Pesticide Label Restrictions

# Section 4: Improve Habitat in Prairies, Roadsides & Open Spaces

- Can habitat meet other site needs?
  - Clear zones, Erosion control, Scenery
- Select the right seed mix for habitat
  - Quality habitat
  - Quantity of habitat
- Maintenance considerations
  - Mowing, Pesticides, etc.
- Fit habitat to landscape

# Metrics and Revisions



- Impact of the plan
- Progress toward pollinator health goals
- Future revisions

***Meeting #3***

# Public Comment Period
# January 19 – February 19

- View the plan on the DATCP website
- Public comment period runs January 19 through February 16, 2016
- Submit comments via mail or email:

| Website | Email | Mail |
| --- | --- | --- |
| http://datcp.wi.gov | DATCPagriculture@wi.gov | DATCP, ATTN: Pollinator Plan PO Box 8911, Madison, WI 53708-8911 |

# Next Steps


Public Comment
Jan-Feb 2016
Publish the Plan
Mar. 2016
Spread the Word
Implementation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