

Recommendations from the PPDC Pollinator Protection Plan Metrics Workgroup

Rose Kachadoorian
Metrics Workgroup Member
Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)

STATE FIFRA RESEARCH & EVALUATION GROUP (SFIREG) FULL COMMITTEE MEETING
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Workgroup Charge

- ▶ The expectation for the workgroup was to develop:
 - ▶ 1) Recommendations for EPA to use in evaluating the effectiveness of pollinator protection plans at a national level; a means to monitor how well they are doing overall
 - ▶ 2) A strategy to communicate that effectiveness to the public. We will refer to 'public' in a broad definition.
- ▶ The WG commenced - November 2016 and disbanded because of projection competition November 2017

National-Level Metrics Guidance Considerations

- ▶ Need to have a mechanism to evaluate effectiveness of MP3s at a national level.
- ▶ Need to have comparable measures across states.
- ▶ Assessments will be at a national level and not compared between states.
- ▶ Survey tool will be used and there is a need to have a group to conduct the survey and collect results.
- ▶ Communicate effectiveness of the plans to the “public”

Step 2: Assessment Categories

- ▶ These categories were common across majority of MP3s
 - ▶ Communication
 - ▶ Best Management Practices or Standard Operating Procedures
 - ▶ Stakeholders
 - ▶ Education
 - ▶ Progress Measures or Behavior Changes

Survey Review



Communication

- ▶ **1a. Does your state have a method to increase communication between pesticide users and beekeepers?**
 - ▶ Yes, No, Somewhat
 - ▶ Please explain or provide comments

Communication

- ▶ **1b. If you answered “yes” or “somewhat” to 1a, what method was used to increase in communication been achieved? (Please check all that apply)**
 - ▶ Pesticide users and beekeeper developed SOPs or BMPs
 - ▶ FieldWatch, DriftWatch or similar mapping program
 - ▶ Flags
 - ▶ Meetings
 - ▶ Website
 - ▶ Other_____

Best Management Practices or Standard Operating Procedures

- ▶ **2a. Have Best Management Practices (BMPs) or Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) been developed to reduce pollinator exposure to pesticides?**
 - ▶ Yes, No, Somewhat
 - ▶ Please give examples of what has been shared

Best Management Practices or Standard Operating Procedures

- ▶ **2b. If you answered “yes” or somewhat for BMPs or SOPs, please check all that apply.**
 - ▶ Communication between beekeepers and pesticide applicators
 - ▶ Pesticide Risk to Pollinators
 - ▶ Stakeholder Engagement
 - ▶ Crop Producers
 - ▶ Pesticide Applicators
 - ▶ Beekeepers
 - ▶ Landscape / Nursery Industry
 - ▶ Urban / Homeowners
 - ▶ Pollinator Forage and Habitat
 - ▶ Other_____

Best Management Practices or Standard Operating Procedures

- ▶ **2c. Has your agency or another entity evaluated your state plan based on metrics or another tool?**
 - ▶ Yes - Self Evaluation or Yes - Another Entity
 - ▶ If yes, what were some of the key learnings as related to the MP3 process and utilization?
 - ▶ No
 - ▶ Comments_____

Education

- ▶ **3. Are you coordinating activities or trainings with other agencies, university-extension or NGOs within your state?**
 - ▶ Yes, No, Somewhat
 - ▶ Comments_____

Education

- ▶ **4a. Has there been outreach on how honey bees are exposed to pesticides and/or proper crop & pest product selection and/or pesticide label comprehension?**
 - ▶ Yes, No, Somewhat
 - ▶ Please explain which of the above topics have been addressed via outreach.

Education

- ▶ **4b. What methods were used for outreach? (Please check all that apply)**
- ▶ Websites
- ▶ Webinars
- ▶ Educational Materials
- ▶ Training Sessions - Extension etc.
- ▶ Radio
- ▶ Farm shows, county fairs, beekeeper meetings etc.
- ▶ Other_____

Stakeholders

- ▶ **4c. Has there been a yearly stakeholder meeting?**
 - ▶ Yes, No
 - ▶ Please explain or provide comments

Stakeholders

- ▶ **4d. Stakeholder groups reached:** (Please check all that apply)
 - ▶ Agricultural
 - ▶ Certified applicators
 - ▶ Noncertified applicators
 - ▶ Crop Consultants
 - ▶ University Extension
 - ▶ State Apiarists
 - ▶ Commercial Beekeepers
 - ▶ Others_____
 - ▶ Non-agricultural/Urban
 - ▶ Certified applicators
 - ▶ Noncertified applicators
 - ▶ Homeowners
 - ▶ Mosquito Control
 - ▶ State / Local Beekeeping Associations
 - ▶ Others_____
 - ▶ Comments _____
 - ▶ Number of people reached: _____

Progress Measures or Behavior Changes

- ▶ **5. How is your state documenting the impact of changes in behavior on reducing pesticide exposure? (Please check all that apply)**
 - ▶ Changes in pesticide incident reporting
 - ▶ Participation of stakeholders in relevant training/webinar/other
 - ▶ Incorporation of MP3 content into continuing education
 - ▶ Downloading of materials from the website
 - ▶ Others_____
 - ▶ N/A - Please explain
- ▶ **Comments_____**

Progress Measures or Behavior Changes

▶ 6. Has there been a reduction in pesticide-related verified bee kills?

▶ Yes, No, Unknown

▶ Comments_____

Progress Measures or Behavior Changes

- ▶ **7. Is your state (SLA or university) attempting to measure potential pesticide exposure to bees, by collecting data documenting the frequency or level of pesticides detected in pollen or other substrate; or by some other means?**
 - ▶ Yes, No, Unknown
 - ▶ Comments_____

Progress Measures or Behavior Changes

- ▶ **8. If applicable, please comment on methods to:**
 - ▶ Assess pesticide exposure
 - ▶ Increase communication
 - ▶ Increase educational efforts
 - ▶ Comments_____

Progress Measures or Behavior Change

- ▶ **9a. Which of the following measurements of success does your state actively utilize to track success? Check all that apply.**
 - ▶ Relying on the results of existing and currently collected honey bee data by federal agencies and national organizations. Data from the USDA-NASS report and the Bee Informed Partnership report.
 - ▶ Relying on the results of state initiated pollinator health surveys.
 - ▶ Increased adopted of BMPs and SOPs by pesticide applicators and beekeepers.
 - ▶ Increase in communication between pesticide applicators and beekeepers
 - ▶ An increased level of understanding of how bees are exposed to pesticides
 - ▶ An increased level of understanding of how product selection can protect pollinators
 - ▶ An increased level of understanding of pesticide label comprehension by pesticide users
 - ▶ Reduction in pesticide-related verified bee kills
 - ▶ Reduction in the frequency and level of pesticides detected in pollen or other substrates.
 - ▶ Other_____

Progress Measures or Behavior Change

- ▶ **9b. Please describe funding sources for any of the above checked categories.**
 - ▶ Comments_____