

# PROTECTING AND ENHANCING CRANBERRY POLLINATORS

Andony Melathopoulos

**Pollinator Health Extension**

Cranberry School

Jan 30 2024

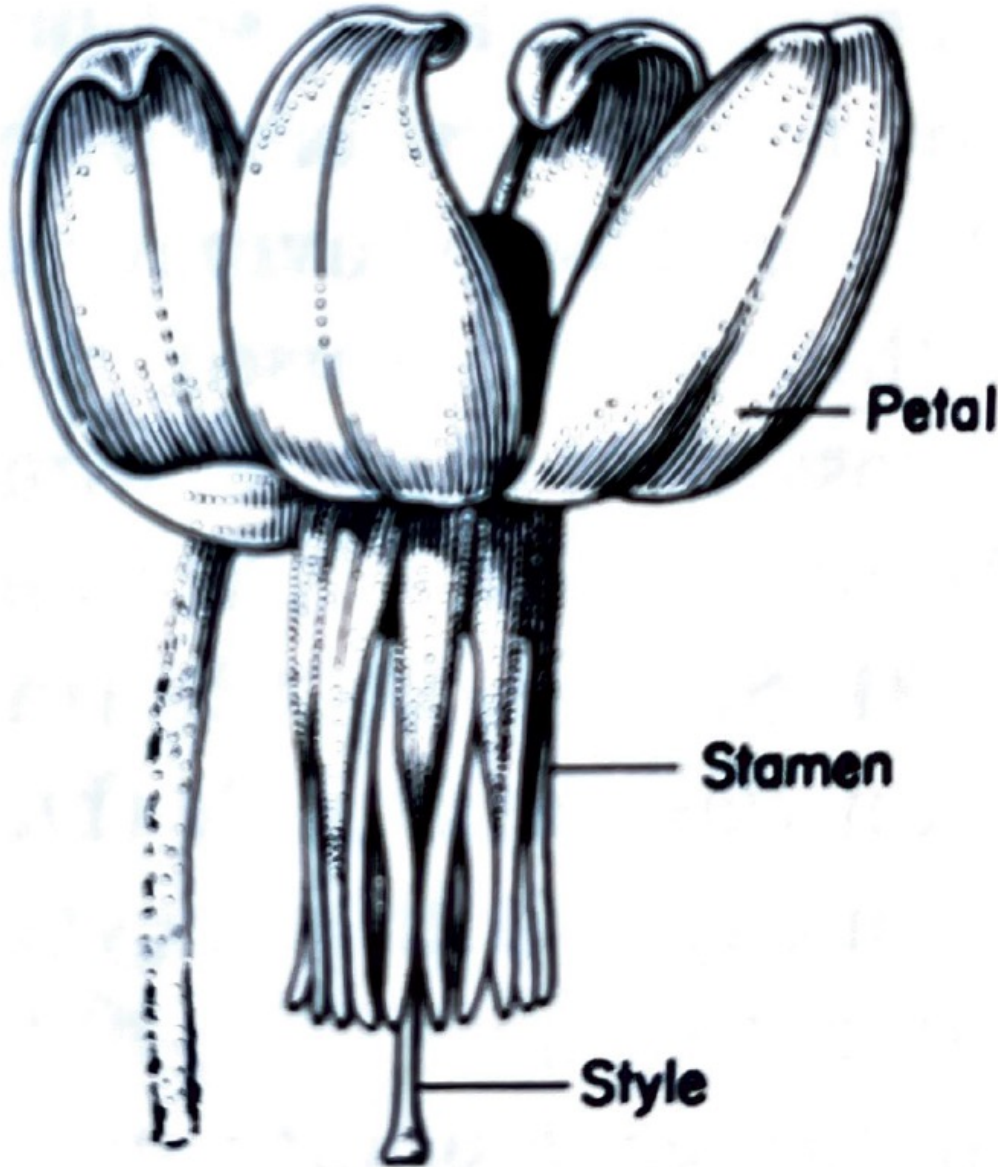


**Oregon State University**  
Extension Service

# LESSON OBJECTIVES:

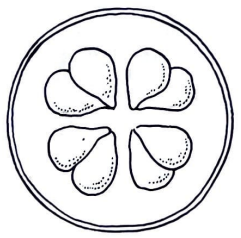
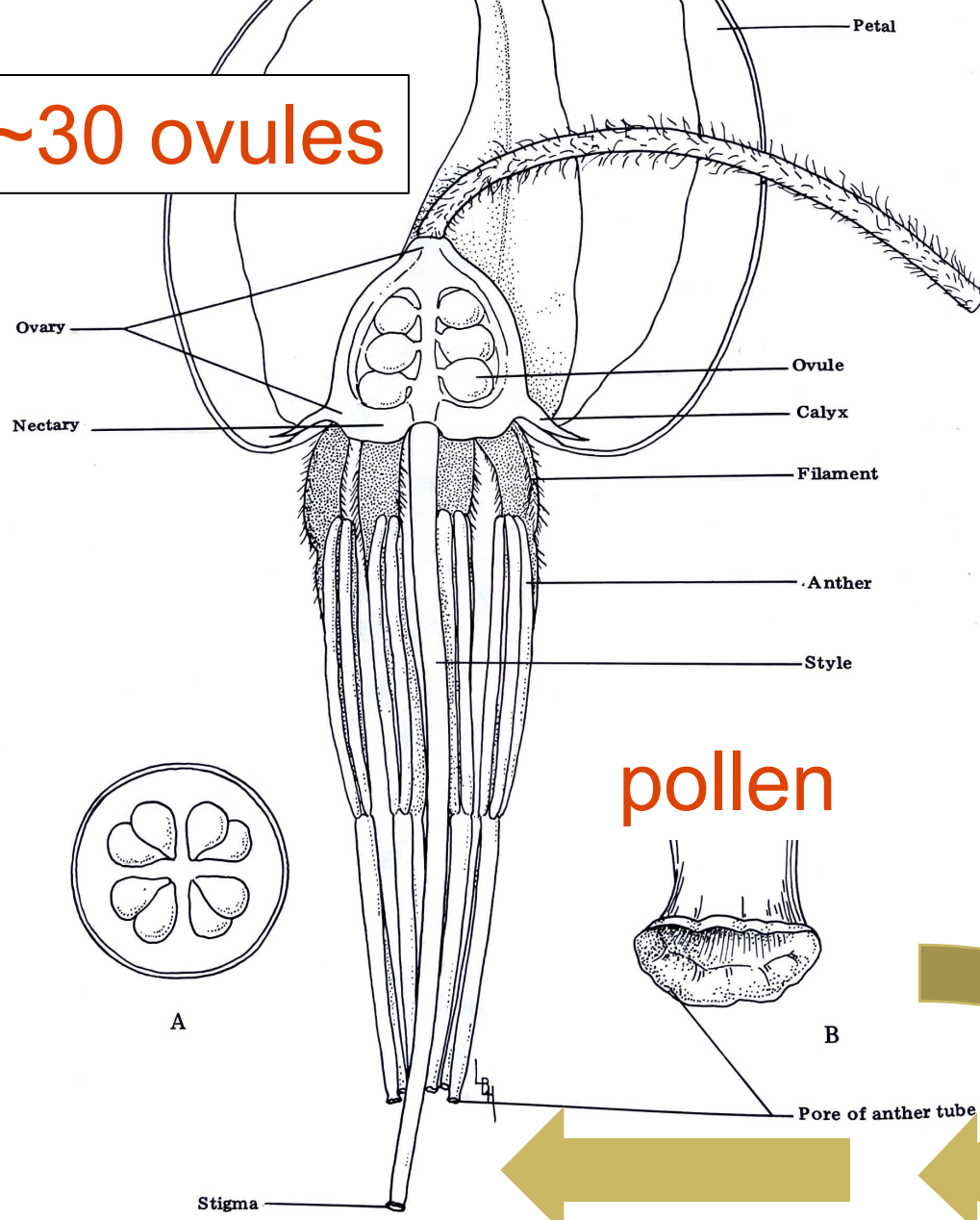
1. Understand key features of cranberry pollination biology.
2. Encouraging bumble bees.
3. Colony placement, pollination and pesticide exposure.
4. Update on residual toxicity and risk assessment that goes into new labels.

# POLLINATION 101



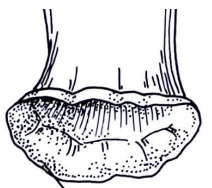
- Pollen shed when stigma is dry and hidden.
- Stigma receptive 2 days after pollen shed.
- Heavy pollen – no wind pollination.
- Typically, only 50% blossoms set.

~30 ovules



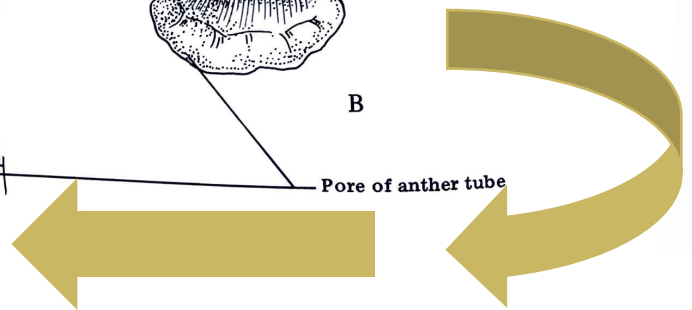
A

pollen



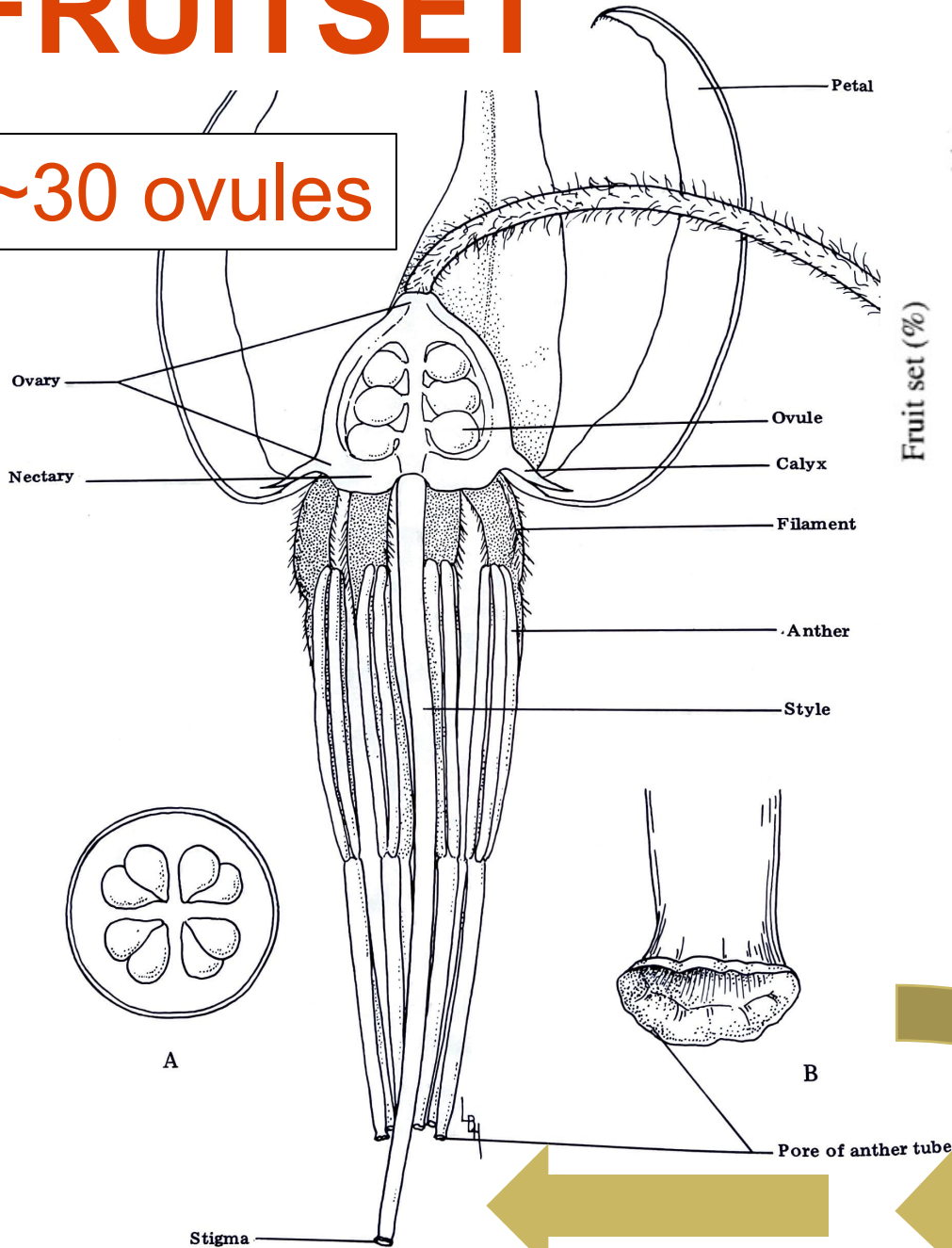
B

Pore of anther tube

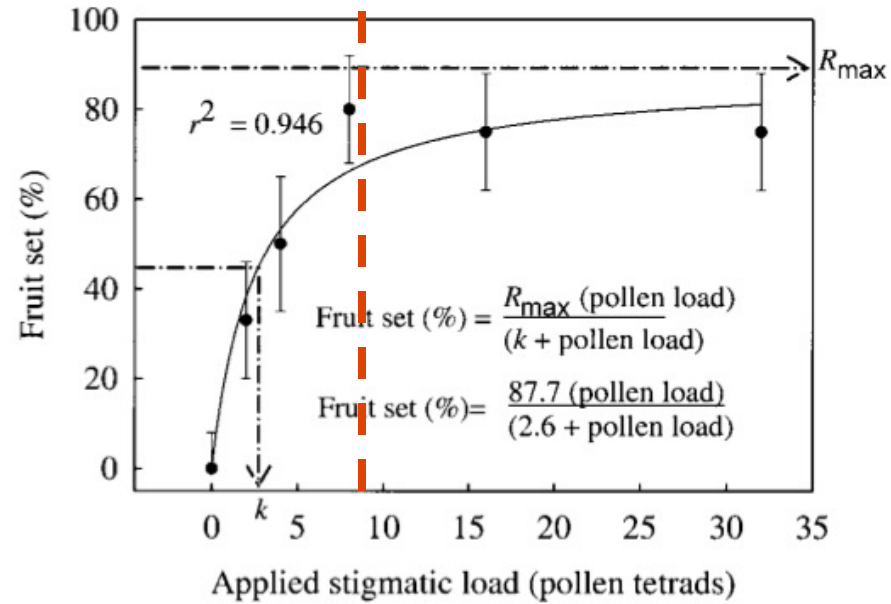


# FRUITSET

~30 ovules



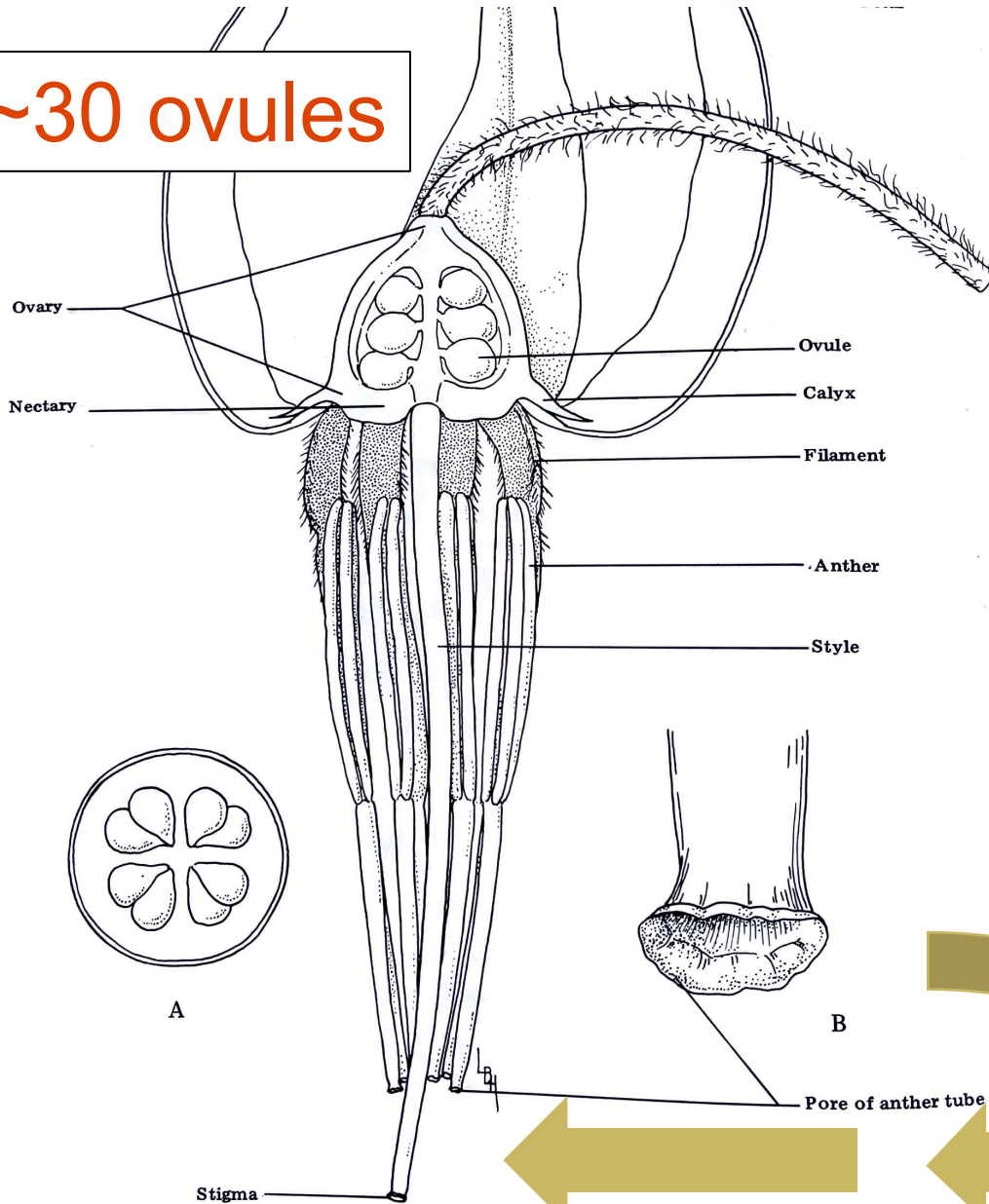
8 tetrads



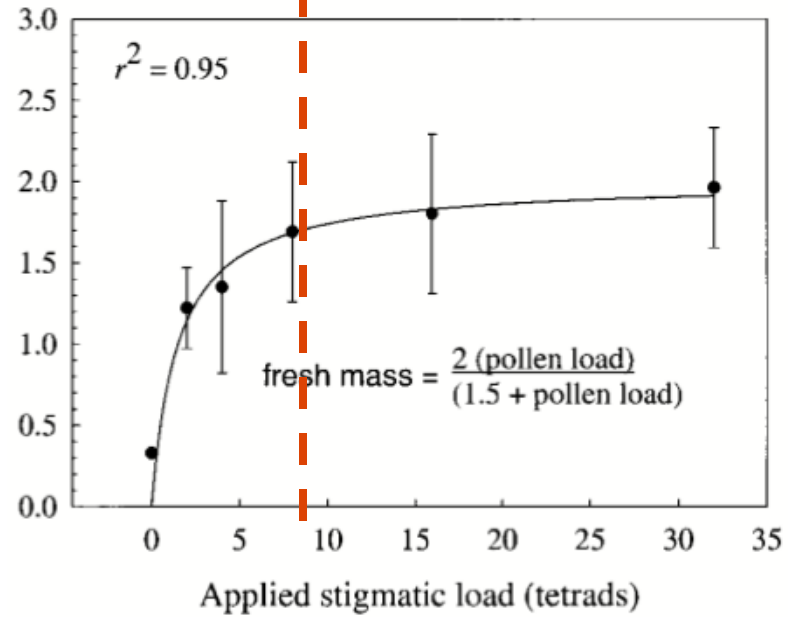
Cane and Schiffhauer 2003

# FRUIT WEIGHT

~30 ovules

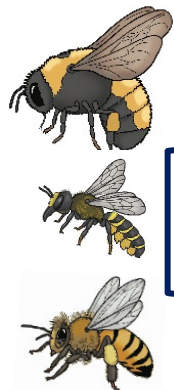


8 tetrads



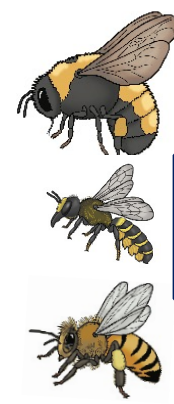
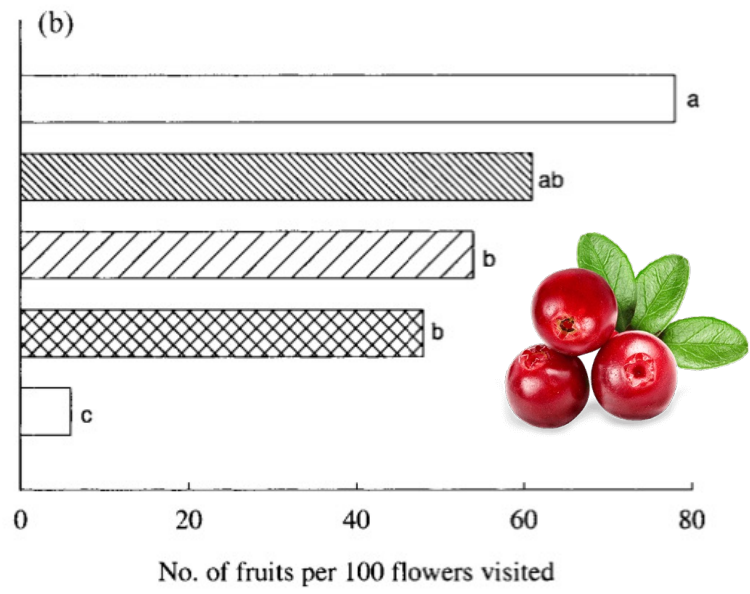
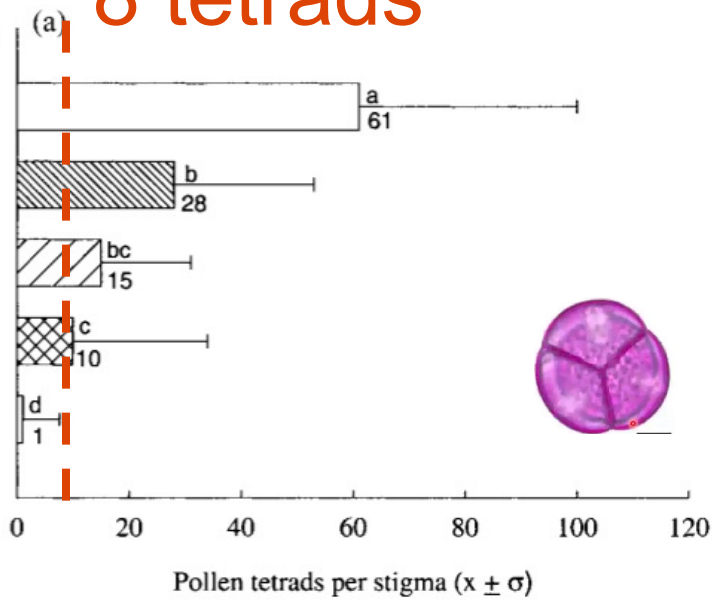
Cane and Schiffhauer 2003

# 8 tetrads



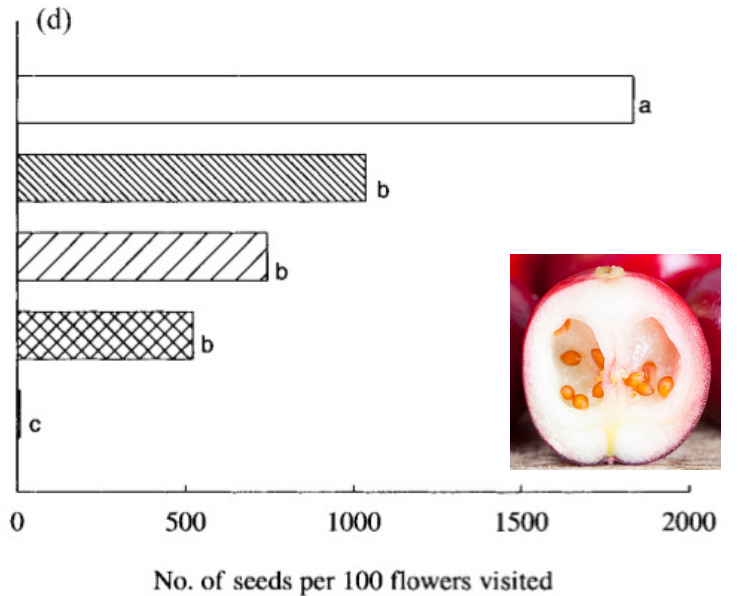
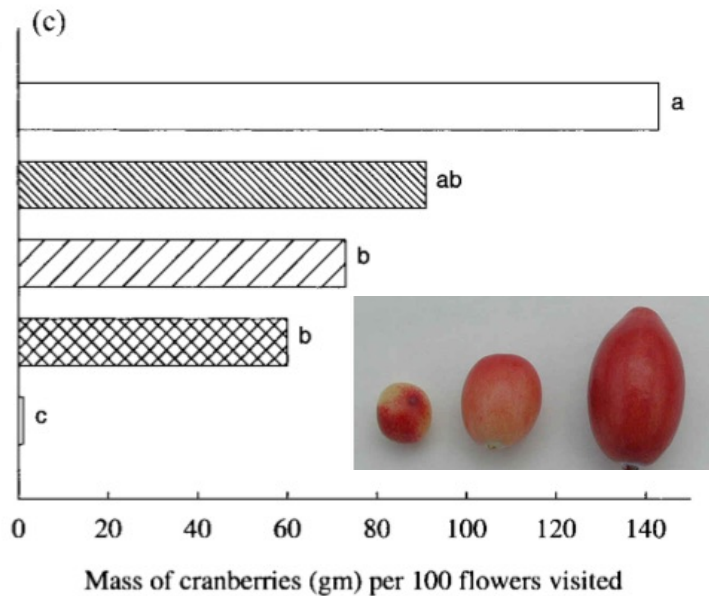
Bee Species

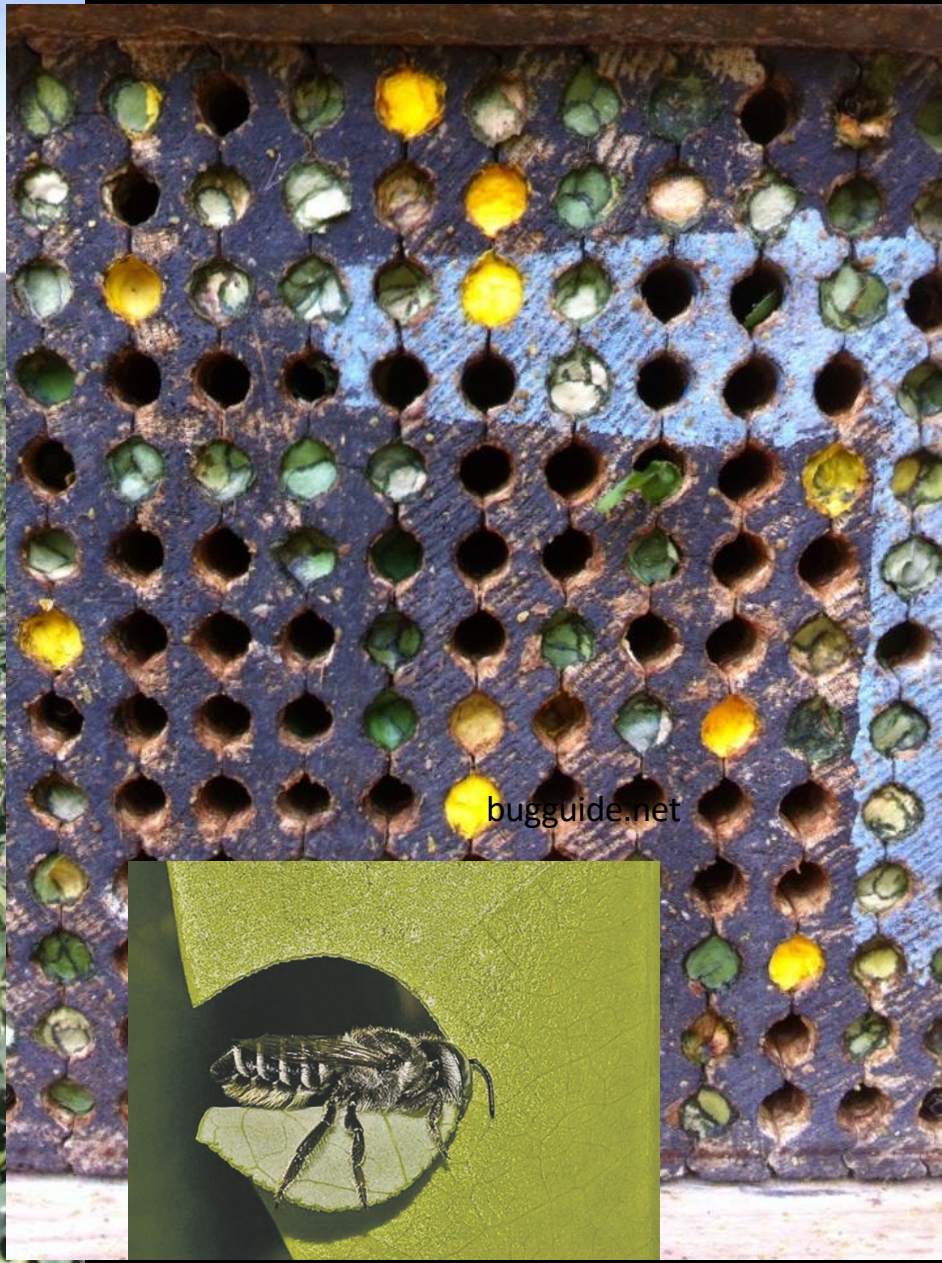
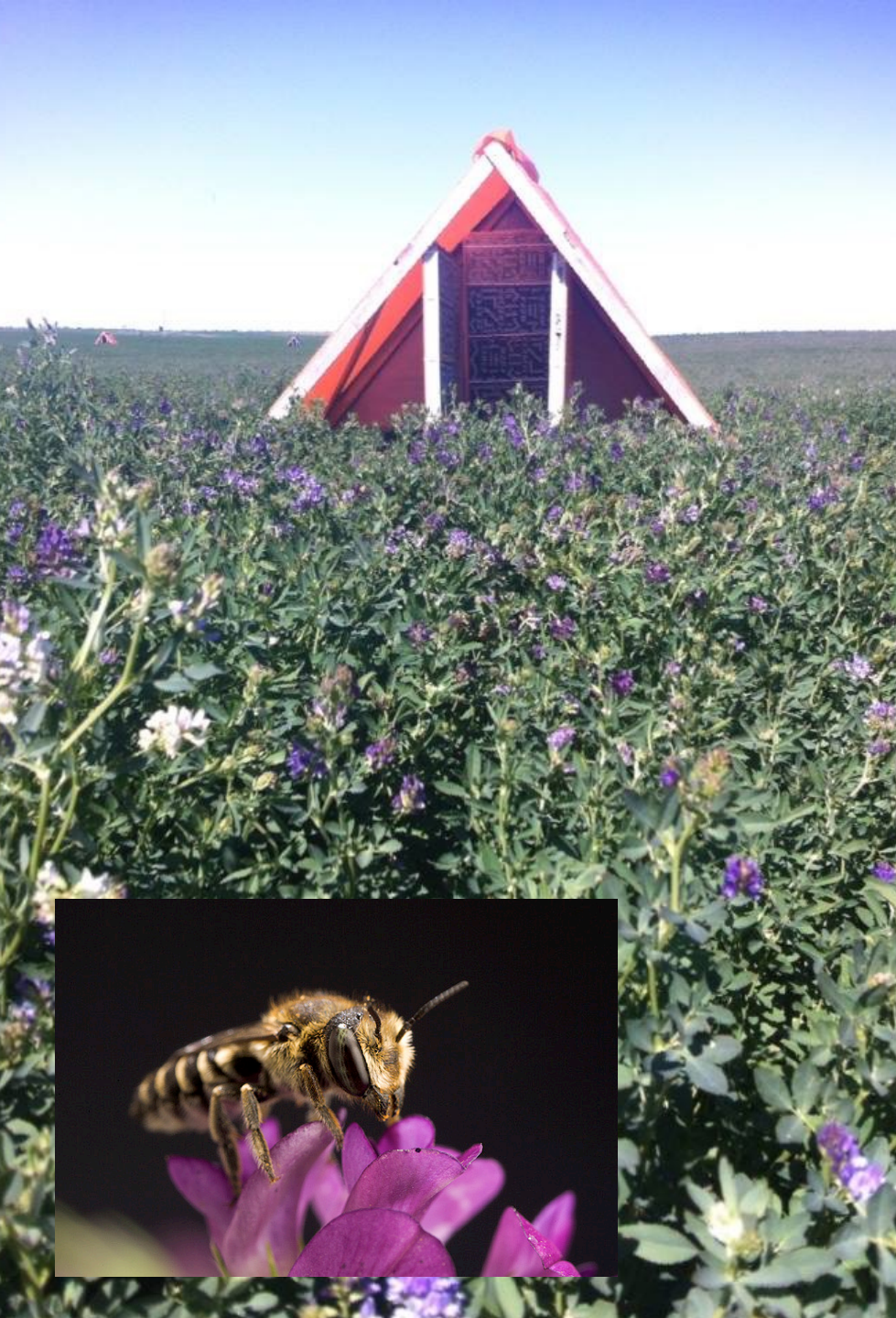
*Bombus affinis*  
*Megachile addenda*  
*Megachile rotundata*  
*Apis mellifera*  
 none



Bee Species

*Bombus affinis*  
*Megachile addenda*  
*Megachile rotundata*  
*Apis mellifera*  
 none







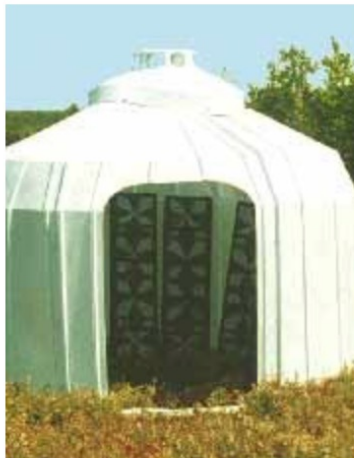
## Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries

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### Alfalfa Leafcutter Bees for the Pollination of Wild Blueberries

#### INTRODUCTION

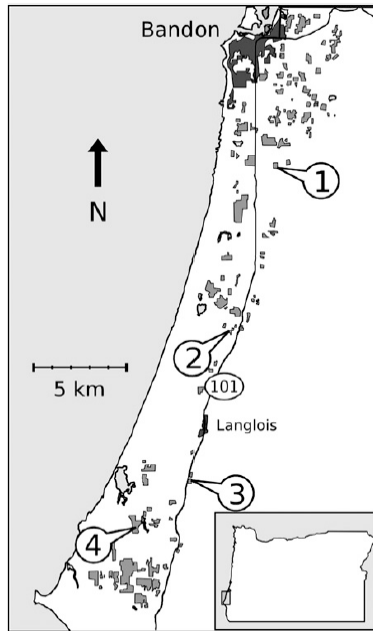
The development of alfalfa leafcutter bee management arose from the need for better pollination of the alfalfa seed crop in North America. Poor pollination and inconsistent cropping was a result of insufficient numbers of native bees, and honey bees are not an efficient option because they do not adequately pollinate alfalfa. In the 1960's when commercial scale populations of alfalfa leafcutter bees (ALBs) became available, alfalfa seed production improved dramatically. Currently, Canada produces 4 billion ALB's per year which are used to service domestic and international alfalfa seed crops as well as an increasing array of other crops.



The alfalfa leafcutter bee, one of the few commercially managed pollinators other than the honeybee, has been investigated as a pollinator of the Atlantic region wild blueberry crop since the early 1990's. They were tried in the region in order to help meet the high demand which the burgeoning wild blueberry industry has placed on beekeeping services in the Atlantic region. Attention focused on Albs because of their commercial availability, well established management guidelines, and desirable pollination attributes. Albs were used on over three hundred acres in New Brunswick in 1995, and this service is likely to undergo significant expansion in the Atlantic region in the next few years. Despite some requirements for fine-tuning the technology for use in Eastern Canada, adaptation of the Western Canadian technology for rearing and using Albs in wild blueberry fields is advancing smoothly.

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68%



Honey Bee

31%



*Bombus vosnesenskii*



*Bombus mixtus*



*Bombus melanopygus*

7 : 3 : 1

HORTSCIENCE 46(6):885–888. 2011.

# Native Bees, Honeybees, and Pollination in Oregon Cranberries

Melissa Broussard<sup>1</sup>, Sujaya Rao, and William P. Stephen

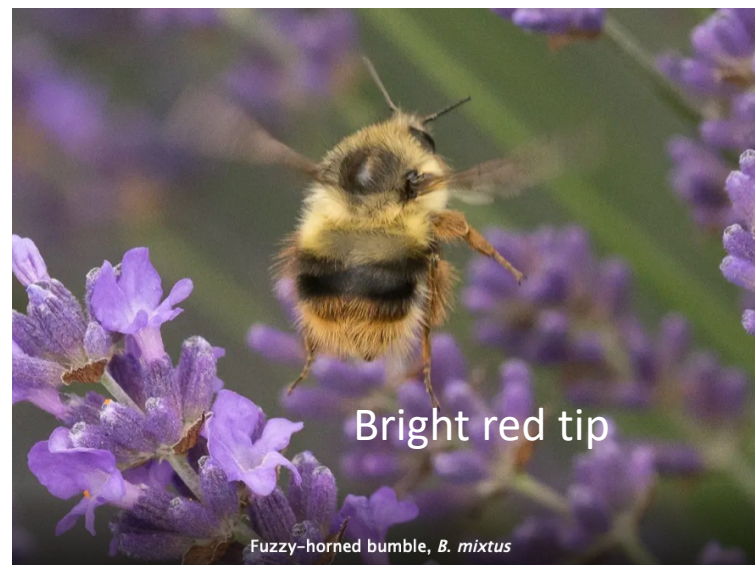
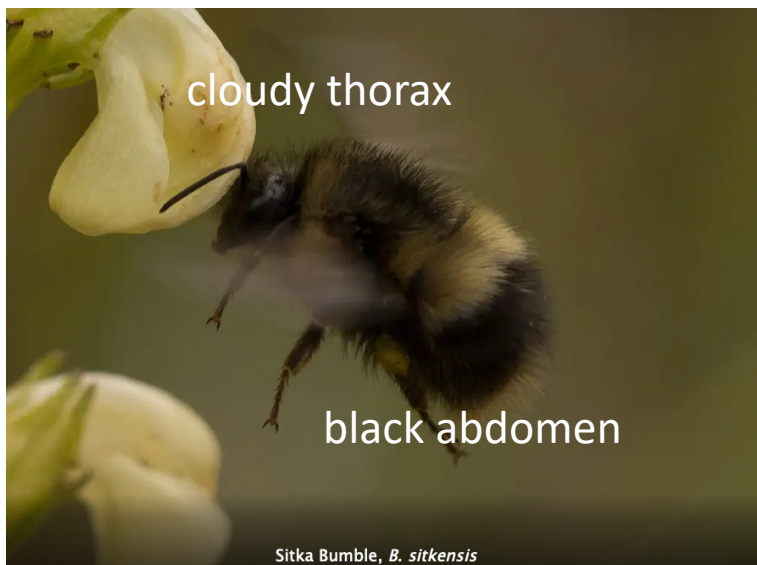
*Department of Crop and Soil Sciences, Oregon State University, 3017 ALS,  
Corvallis, OR 97331*

Linda White

*Department of Horticulture, Oregon State University Extension, 631 Alder  
Street, Myrtle Point, OR 97458*

# Bumble Bees During and After Pollination on cranberry and "bee plants"

Bumble bee species	Percentage of total bumble bees				
	3 June Cranberries	1 July Cranberries Bee plants		10 Aug Bee plants	15 Sept Bee plants
<i>B. caliginosus</i>	0	2	73	74	43
<i>B. californicus</i>	1	0	4	7	30
<del><i>B. occidentalis</i></del>	<del>42</del>	<del>76</del>	<del>13</del>	<del>17</del>	<del>27</del>
<i>B. mixtus</i>	30	14	5	2	0
<i>B. sitkensis</i>	24	4	5	0	0
<i>B. melanopygus</i>	3	4	0	0	0



# Bumble Bee (*Bombus* spp.)

22 species in Oregon

worker



queen



# Oregon Approved Invertebrate List

The following insects and other invertebrates are approved for use as pets, pet food, biological control agents, educational displays, and release in Oregon. Note that shipment of some plant pests and some biological control agents across state lines requires a U.S. Department of Agriculture permit (form 526). If you have questions about invertebrates not on this list, permits, releases, etc., check with the Oregon Department of Agriculture (Plant Programs), 635 Capitol Street N.E., Salem, OR 97301-2532, (503) 986-4636. You may view the Oregon Administrative Rules at <https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewSingleRule.action?ruleVrsnRsn=158460>

Bumblebees native to Oregon	e.g. <i>Bombus vosnesenskii</i> , <i>B. bifarius</i> , <i>B. californicus</i> , <i>B. griseocolis</i> , <i>B. melanopygus</i> , <i>B. mixtus</i>	PL
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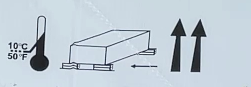
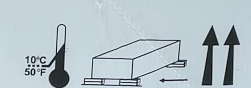
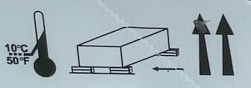


**QUAD**

**QUAD**

**QUAD**

**QUAD**



**KOPPERT**  
BIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS

**KOPPERT**  
BIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS

**KOPPERT**  
BIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS

**KOPPERT**  
BIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS

≥ 80°F / 27°C

≥ 80°F / 27°C

≥ 80°F / 27°C

≥ 80°F / 27°C

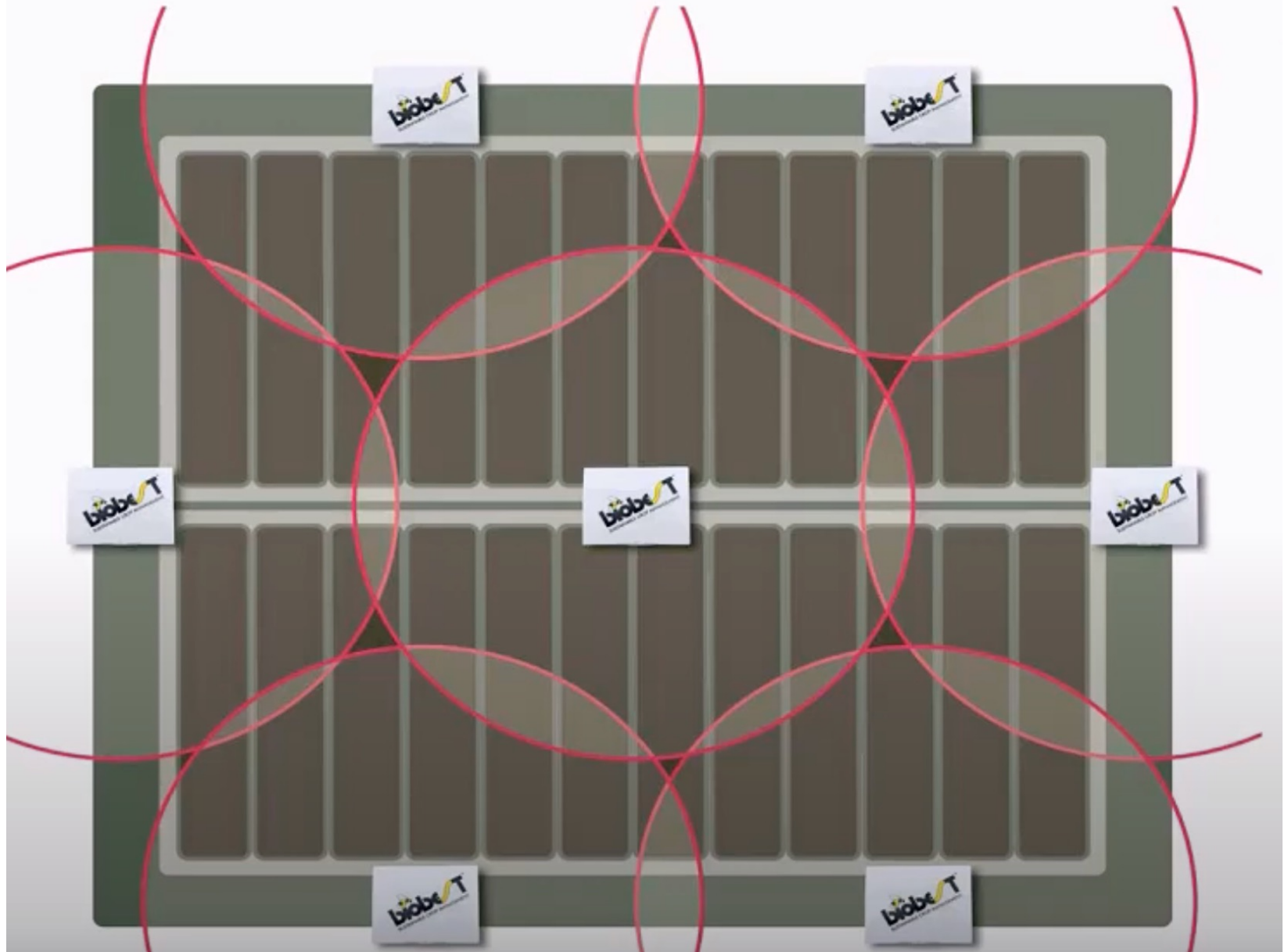
# Considerations for bumble bees

Ann Coleman (Koppert) – 734 231 4330

- Takes **10 weeks** to make a unit – give them a heads up.
- **Don't place in direct sunlight** (overheating).
- Put on a **pallet**.
- **Same stocking rate as honey bees** (2-3 colonies per acre).
- Install at **5% bloom** and pollinates for 4 weeks.



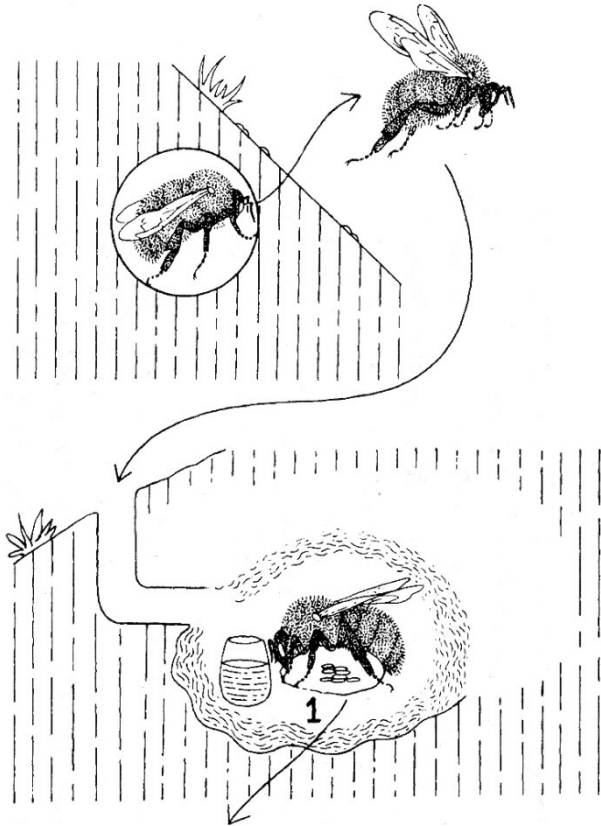
# Bumble bees should be dispersed



# Bumble Bee Lifecycle

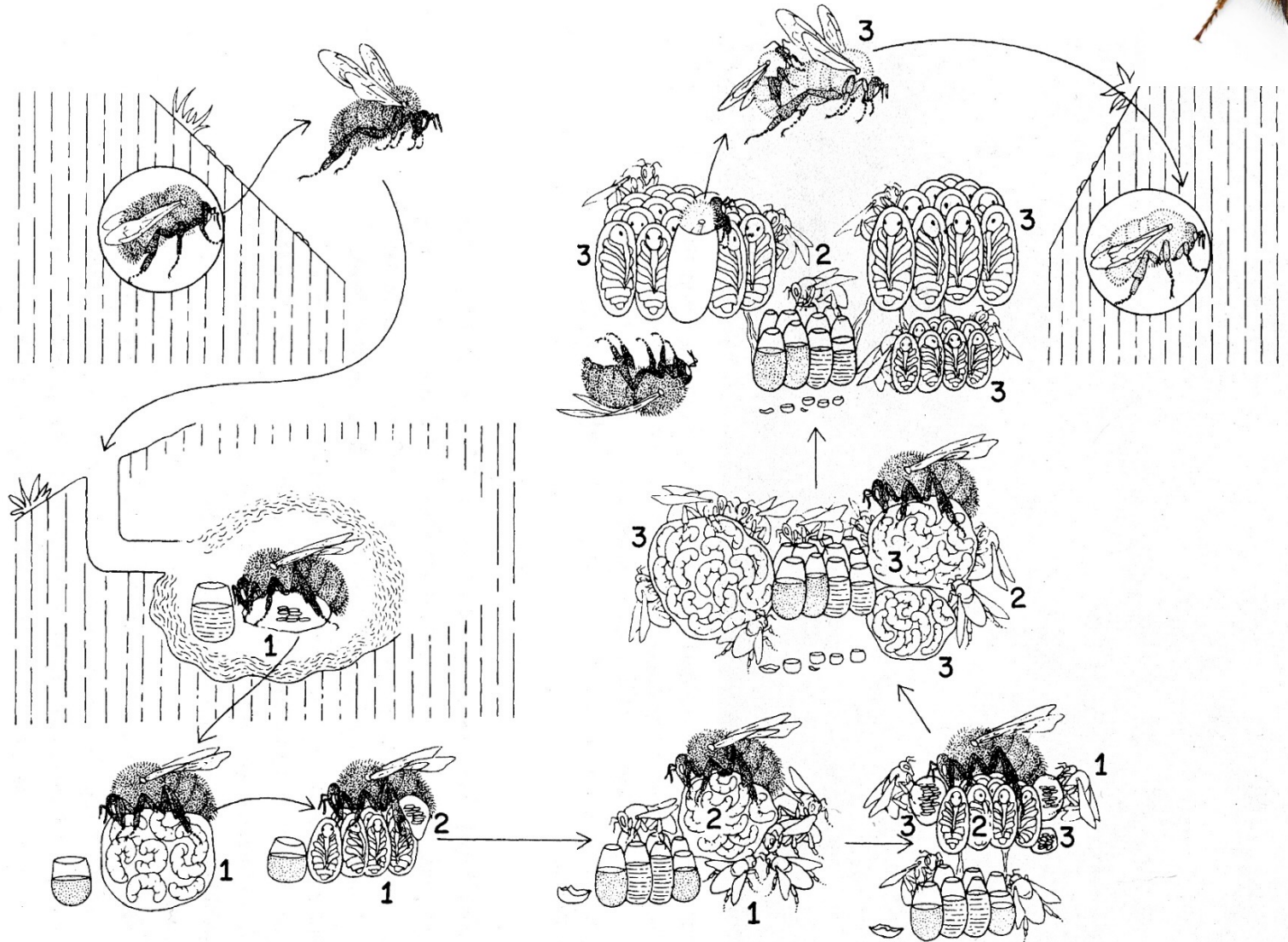


Photo by Thomas Owen  
Oregon  
Department of  
Agriculture





# Bumble Bee Lifecycle

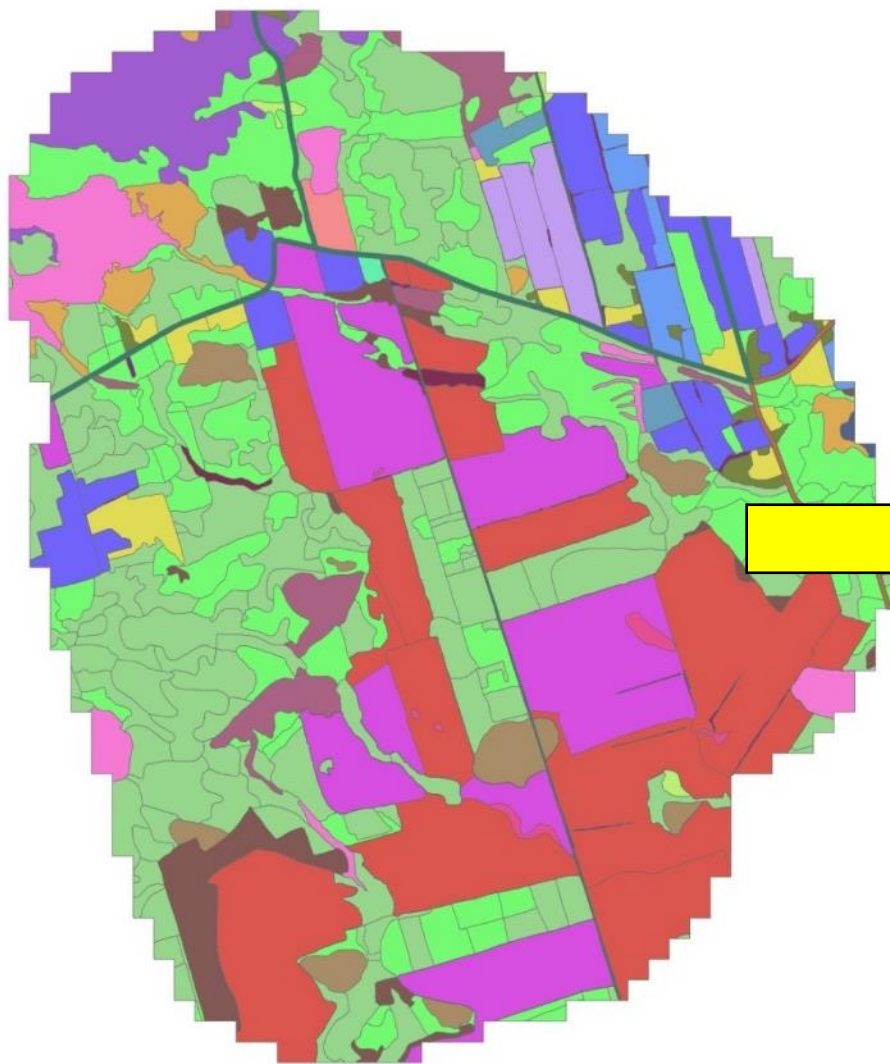




# POLLINATOR'S PERSPECTIVE



## Crop in Bloom

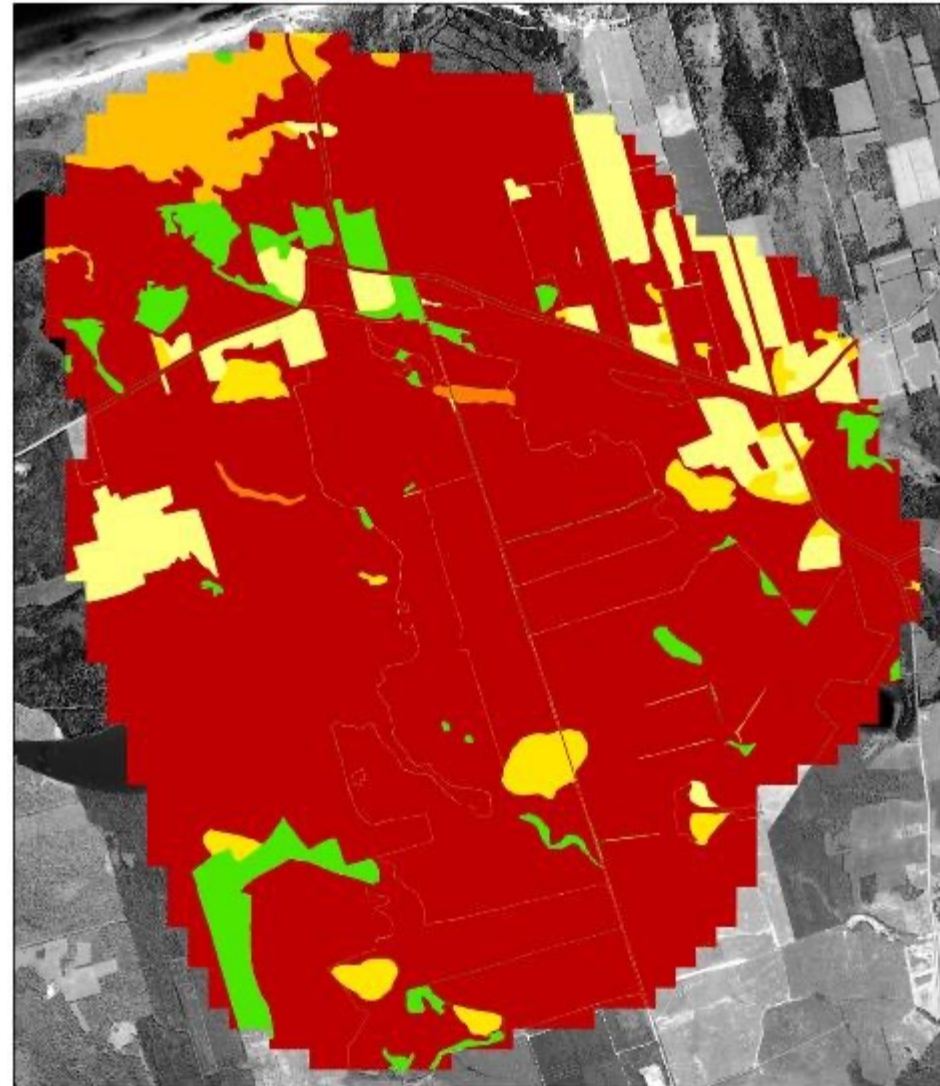


# POLLINATOR'S PERSPECTIVE

April



August



Spring: *Erica carnea*, *E. x darleyensis*

Summer: *E. cinerea*

Dr. Kim Patten, Washington State University Long Beach





**“Protect what you have.  
Add what you can.”**

- Mark Wonneck's rule-of-thumb





Land taken out of production for foraging habitat (meadows)

Expand Buffer (Bog/Field)



Shelterbelt (Greenlane)



Forest Clearing (maintain early successional plant community)



Steve Javorek





**Willows**  
*Salix spp.*



## **Oregon grape (*Mahonia aquifolium*)**

**Blooms March-April – evergreen shrub**

**Attracts many pollinating bees and essential for bumble  
bee queens**

**photo Michael O'Loughlin**



## **Nootka Rose (*Rosa spp.*)**

**Blooms May-June – shrub**

**Attracts a broad range of bees. Does best in wet spots, but also tolerates summer drought.**

**Photos Jerry Paul and Lori Humphrey**



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**CLUMPED**

USDA NIFA

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Oregon State University

UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

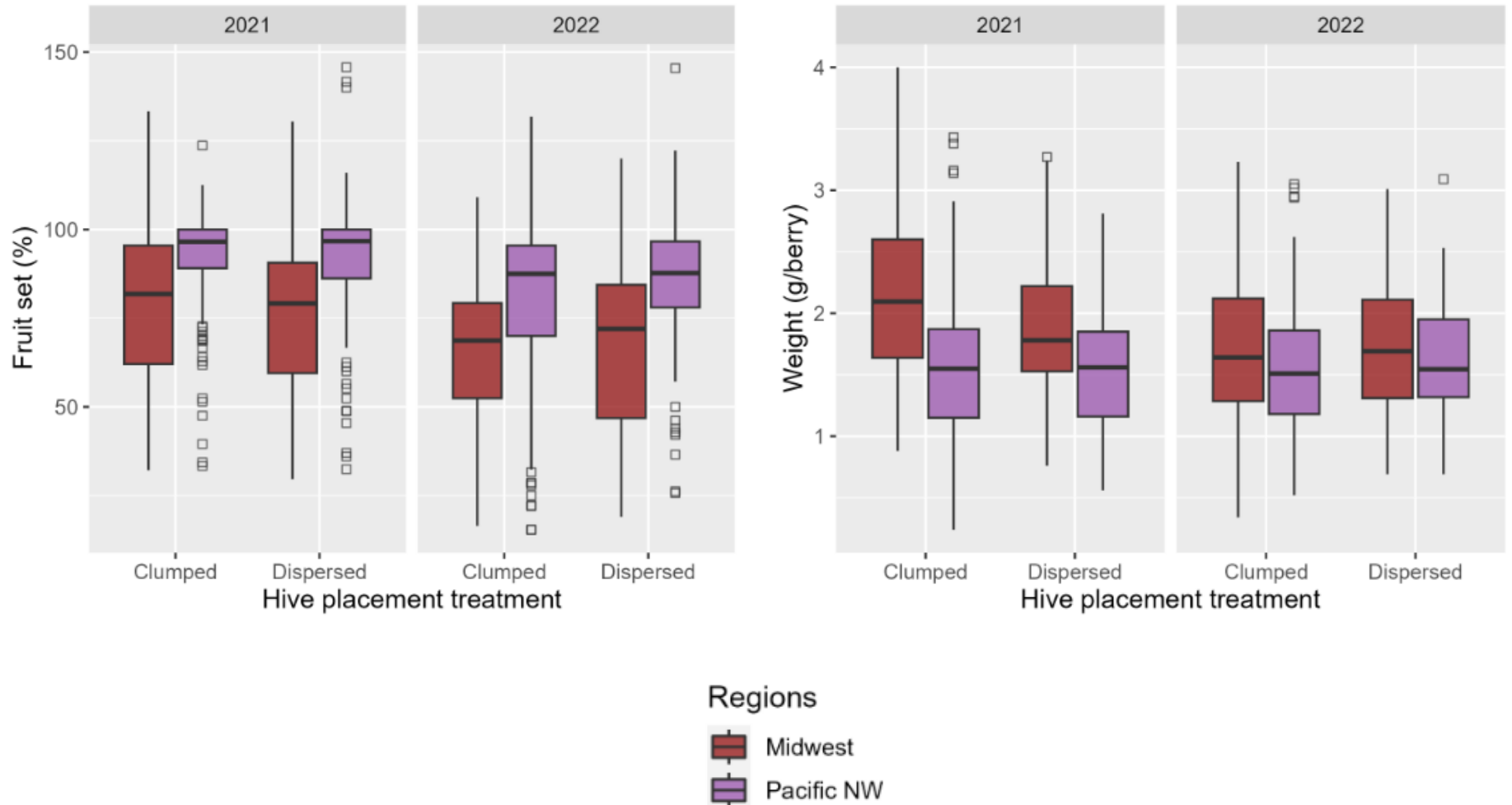
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

BEES AND BERRIES



**DISPERSED**

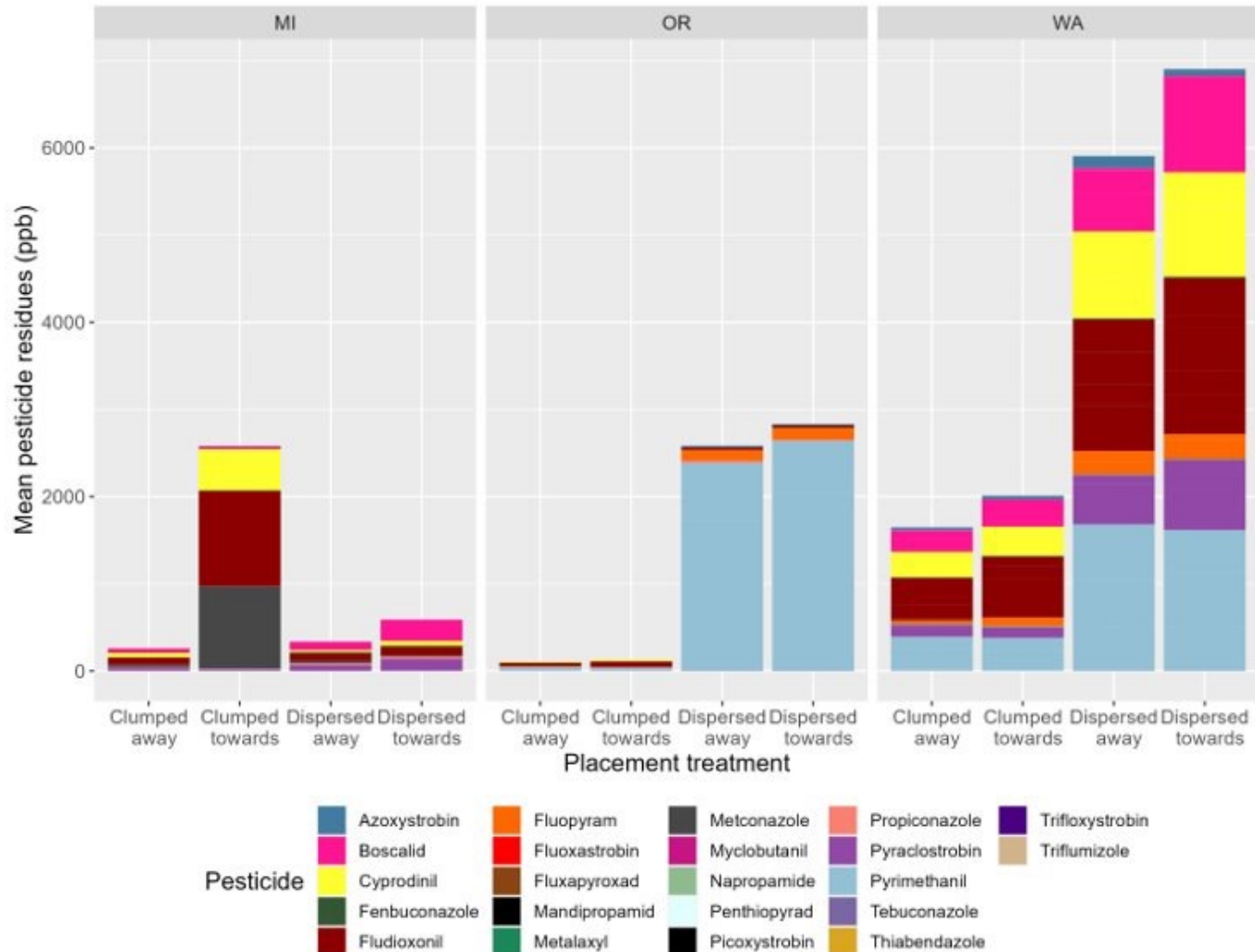
# NO BENEFIT OF DISPERSING COLONIES



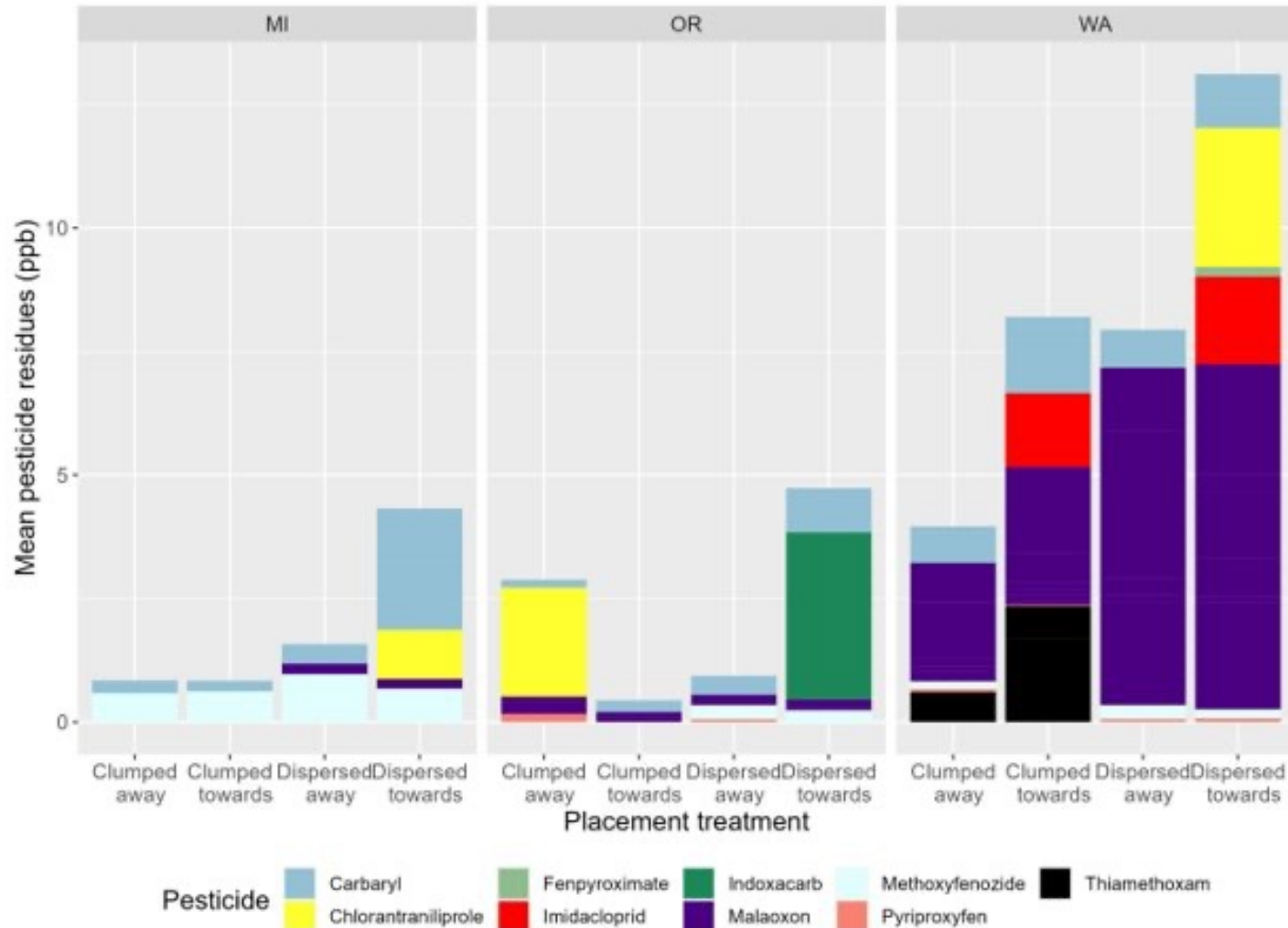
# DISPERSING COLONIES AND SPRAY DRIFT



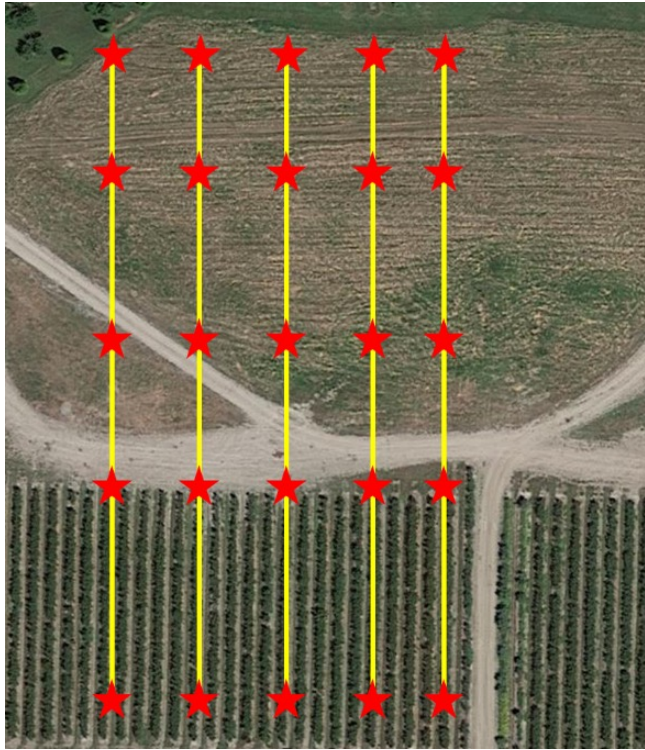
# DISPERSING COLONIES AND SPRAY DRIFT



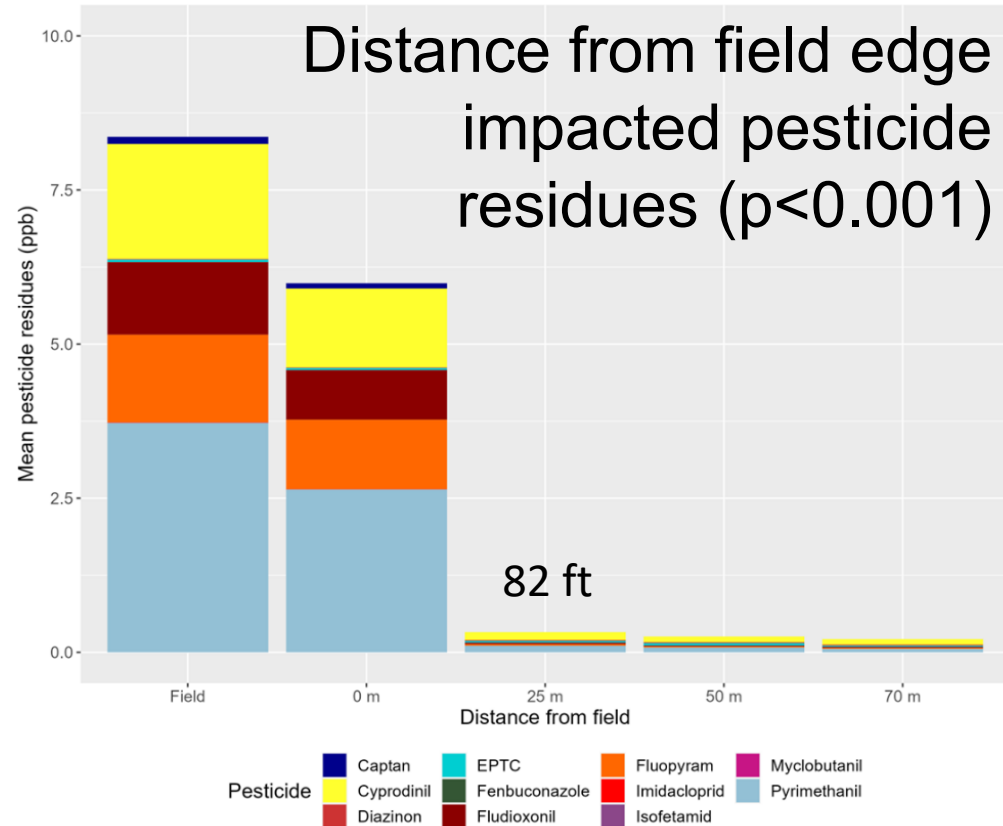
# DISPERSING COLONIES AND SPRAY DRIFT



# SPRAY DRIFT DROPS OFF LESS THAN 82 ft



Silicone bands deployed at one WA field in 2023



**NO EVIDENCE THAT  
DISPERSING COLONIES  
BENEFITS POLLINATION**

**BUT**

**IT REDUCES PESTICIDE  
EXPOSURE**

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ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS: This product is **highly toxic to bees** exposed to direct treatment or residues on blooming crops or weeds. Do not apply this product or allow it to drift to blooming crops or weeds while bees are foraging in the treated area.

“...highly toxic to bees...”

“...toxic to bees...”



Photo by Ellen Topitzhofer

# Systematic review of residual toxicity studies of pesticides to bees and veracity of guidance on pesticide labels

Leah Swanson<sup>1</sup>, Andony Melathopoulos<sup>2</sup> and Matthew Bucy<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR, United States of America

<sup>2</sup> Department of Horticulture, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR, United States of America

<sup>3</sup> Oregon Department of Agriculture, Salem, OR, United States of America

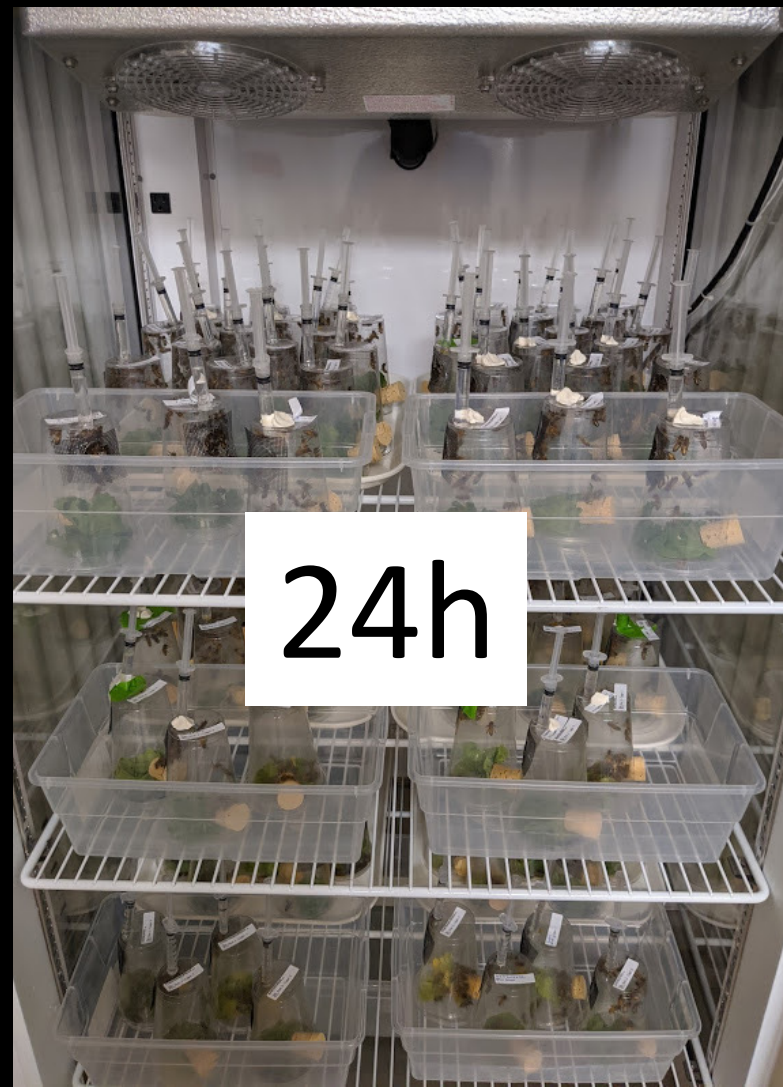
# Residual Toxicity – $RT_{25}$

$RT_{25}$  is the residual time needed to reduce the activity of the test substance and bring bee mortality down to 25 percent (25%) in cage test exposures to field-weathered spray deposits.











# toxicity 3h after spray



**bifenthrin**  
(e.g., Brigade)

**cyantraniliprole**  
(e.g., Exirel)

**untreated**

# toxicity 24h after spray



**bifenthrin**  
(e.g., Brigade)

**cyantraniliprole**  
(e.g., Exirel)

**untreated**

# Fanfare<sup>®</sup> EC

**ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS:** This product is highly toxic to bees exposed to direct treatment or residues on blooming crops or weeds. Do not apply this product or allow it to drift to blooming crops or weeds while bees are **foraging** in the treated area.

“...actively foraging...”

$RT_{25} < 8h$



“...foraging...”

$RT_{25} > 8h$



# Systematic review of residual toxicity studies of pesticides to bees and veracity of guidance on pesticide labels

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## [Pollinator Protection](#)

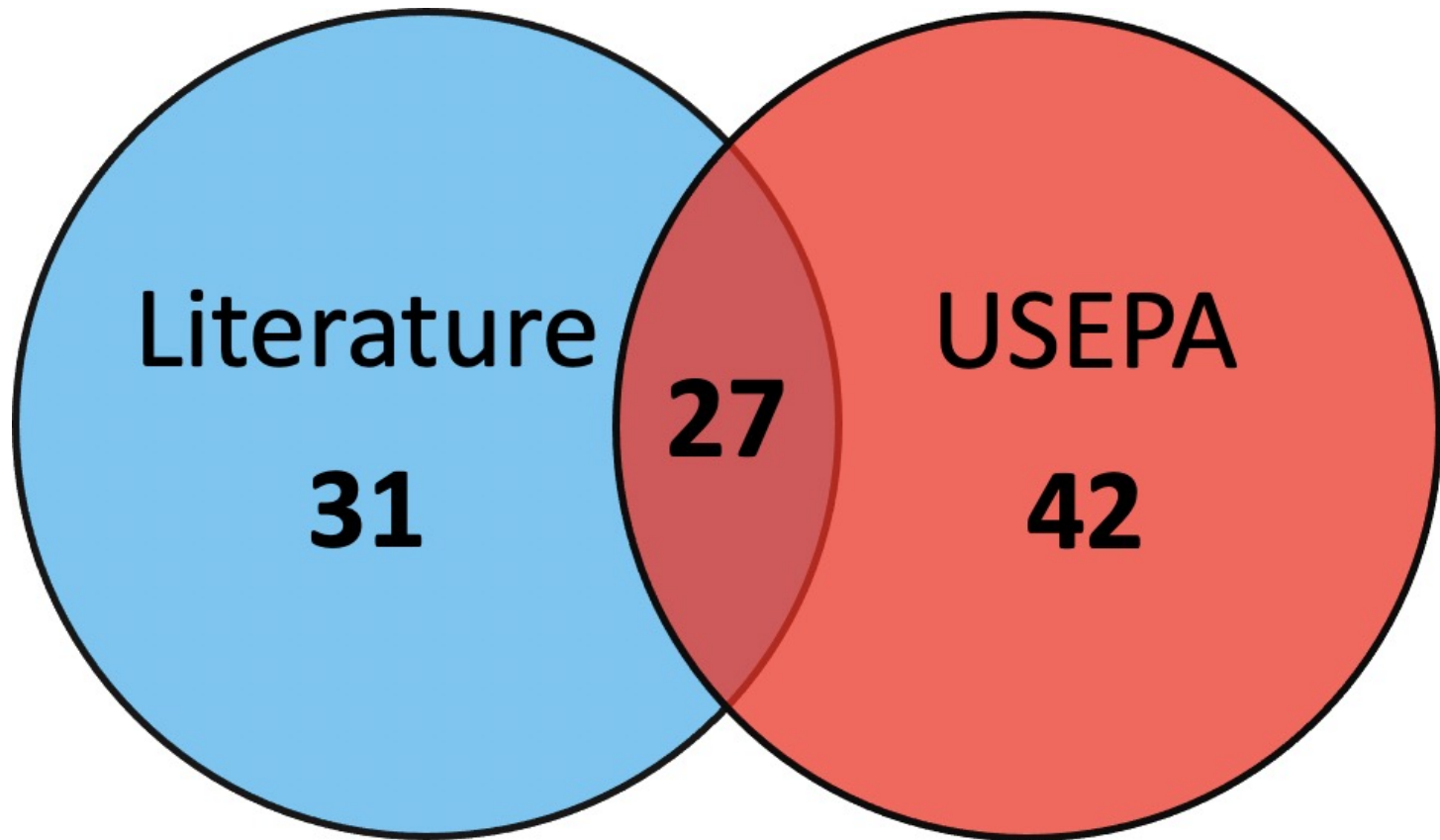
[CONTACT US](#)

# Residual Time to 25% Bee Mortality (RT<sub>25</sub>) Data

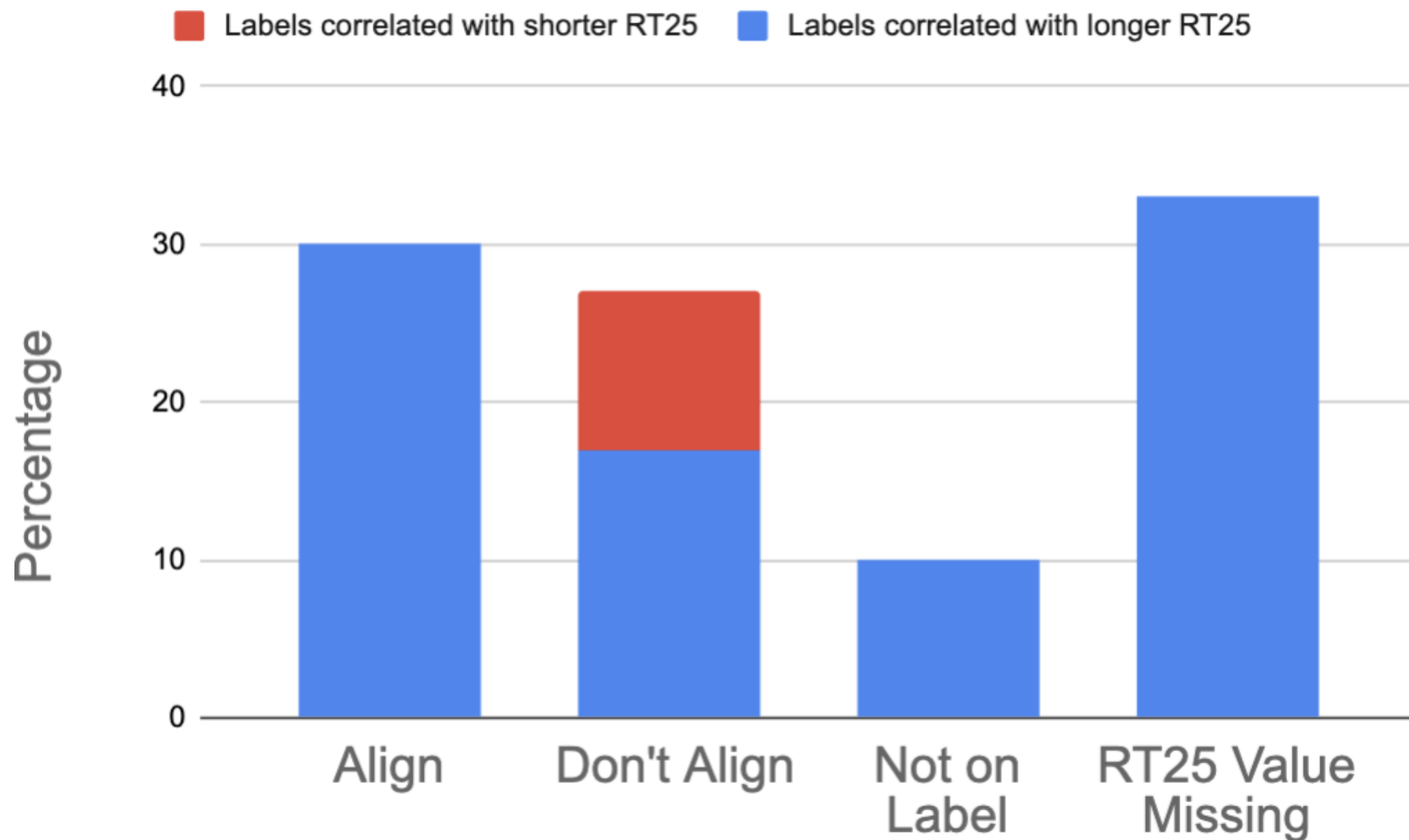
## OPP Residual Time to 25% Mortality (RT<sub>25</sub>)

Active Ingredient	Formulation <sup>2</sup> (% a.i.)	Application Rate	Crop <sup>3</sup>	Qualifier <sup>4</sup>	RT <sub>25</sub> <sup>5</sup> (hours)	Test Species Name Common (Scientific)
<b>Abamectin</b>	0.15 EC	0.0234 lb a.i./A	alfalfa	--	7.96	Honey bee ( <i>Apis mellifera</i> )
<b>Abamectin (avermectin)</b>	L 676, 863-28W02	0.0016 lb a.i./tree	citrus	--	60	Honey bee ( <i>Apis mellifera</i> )
		0.0008 lb a.i./tree		--	41.5	
		0.0008 lb a.i./tree		--	30	
		0.0003 lb a.i./tree		<	8	
		0.1 lb a.i./A	<	48		

# create a comprehensive RT<sub>25</sub> database



# database vs label language



# HOOK STAGE





140h



**AVAUNT**<sup>®</sup>



*INSECTICIDE*

**Active Ingredient:** Indoxacarb

**Pests (at bloom):** cranberry weevil, blackheaded fireworm

**Environmental Hazards:** Highly toxic to bees,  $RT_{25} > 8h$

**Specific Use Directions:** none for bees

**>8h**

**ORTHENE® 97**

**Soluble Insecticide**

**Active Ingredient:** Acephate

**Pests (at bloom):** blackheaded fireworm, fruitworm

**Environmental Hazards:** Highly toxic to bees,  $RT_{25} > 8h$

**Specific Use Directions:** none for bees

**>8h**

**DANITOL<sup>®</sup>**  
**2.4 EC SPRAY**

**Active Ingredient:** Fenpropathrin

**Pests (at bloom):** blackheaded fireworm, tipworm

**Environmental Hazards:** Highly toxic to bees,  $RT_{25} > 8h$

**Specific Use Directions:** none for bees

	0.125	>18
WP	0.25	>18
	0.5	>42
	1	>42

# Diazinon 50W

A Wettable Powder Insecticide Packaged In Water-Soluble Bags

**Active Ingredient:** Diazinon

**Pests (at bloom):** blackheaded fireworm, fruitworm

**Environmental Hazards:** Highly toxic to bees,  $RT_{25} > 8h$

**Specific Use Directions:** none for bees



Dow AgroSciences

**Delegate**<sup>®</sup> WG

INSECTICIDE

**Active Ingredient:** Spinetoram

**Pests (at bloom):** blackheaded fireworm, fruitworm

**Environmental Hazards:** Toxic to bees,  $RT_{25}=3h$

**Specific Use Directions:** none for bees



**Dow AgroSciences**

**Entrust<sup>®</sup>**

**NATURALYTE<sup>®</sup> INSECT CONTROL**

**Active Ingredient:** Spinetoram

**Pests (at bloom):** blackheaded fireworm, fruitworm

**Environmental Hazards:** Toxic to bees,  $RT_{25}=3h$

**Specific Use Directions:** none for bees

**BLOOM**





# ALTACOR<sup>®</sup>



*INSECT CONTROL*

**Active Ingredient:** Chlorantraniliprole

**Pests (at bloom):** blackheaded fireworm, fruitworm

**Environmental Hazards:** none for bees

**Specific Use Directions:** none for bees





Dow AgroSciences

# Intrepid<sup>®</sup>

2F

INSECTICIDE

**Active Ingredient:** Methoxyfenozide

**Pests (at bloom):** blackheaded fireworm, fruitworm

**Environmental Hazards:** none for bees

**Specific Use Directions:** none for bees

**RESIDUAL TOXICITY ON  
LABELS MAY NOT REFLECT  
TRIALS**

**BUT**

**CRANBERRY LABELS ALIGN**

# ***HARVANTA<sup>®</sup> 50SL*** ***INSECTICIDE***

## **Environmental Hazards**

This product is highly toxic to bees and other pollinating insects exposed to direct treatment or to residues in/on blooming crops or weeds. Protect pollinating insects by following label directions intended to minimize drift and to reduce risk to these organisms. Do not apply this product or allow it to drift to blooming crops or weeds while bees or other pollinating insects are foraging the treatment area.

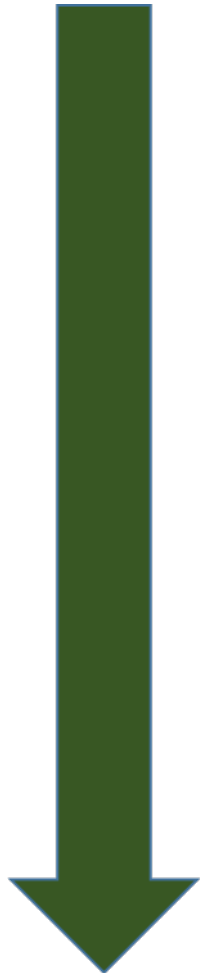
Crop	Insects	Use Rate Fl. Oz. Product Per Acre	Instructions
<b>Leafy Vegetable Group (Crop Group 4-16)*</b>	Beet armyworm Cabbage looper Corn earworm Cross striped cabbage moth Diamondback moth Imported cabbageworm Flea beetles Fall armyworm Western yellowstriped armyworm Leafminers ( <i>Liriomyza</i> species) Western flower thrips** Whiteflies** Stink bug spp **	10.9 to 16.4 fl oz (0.036 to 0.054 lb. a.i. /A)	<p><b>Aphids</b> For best results use with an effective adjuvant. Use the higher labeled rate for best performance.</p> <p><b>Resistance Management:</b>            Do not apply HARVANTA 50SL INSECTICIDE or other Group 28 insecticide more than 3 times within a single generation of insect pest(s) on a crop.</p> <p><b>Restrictions:</b>            Foliar application of this product is prohibited to a crop from onset of flowering until flowering is complete unless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the application is being made in the time period between 2 hours prior to sunset until sunrise; OR,</li> <li>• the application is being made at a time when the temperature at the application site is 50 degrees F or less.</li> </ul>

# EPA evaluates RISK in a 3-Tiered Assessment Process

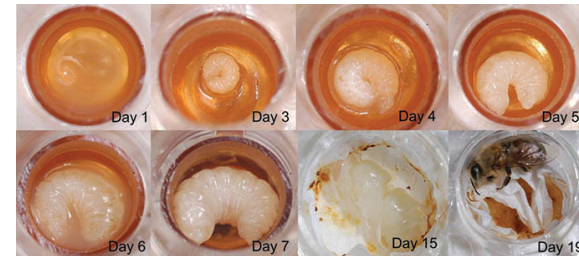


**NAPPC**

# TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTS ON NON-TARGET ORGANISMS LIKE BEES:



**TIER I  
(LAB)**



**TIER II  
(SEMI-FIELD)**

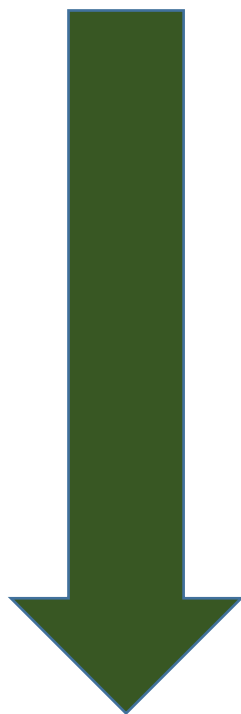


**TIER III  
(FIELD)**



photo credit Smithers Viscient

# MOVE FROM TIER I TO TIER II TO TIER III

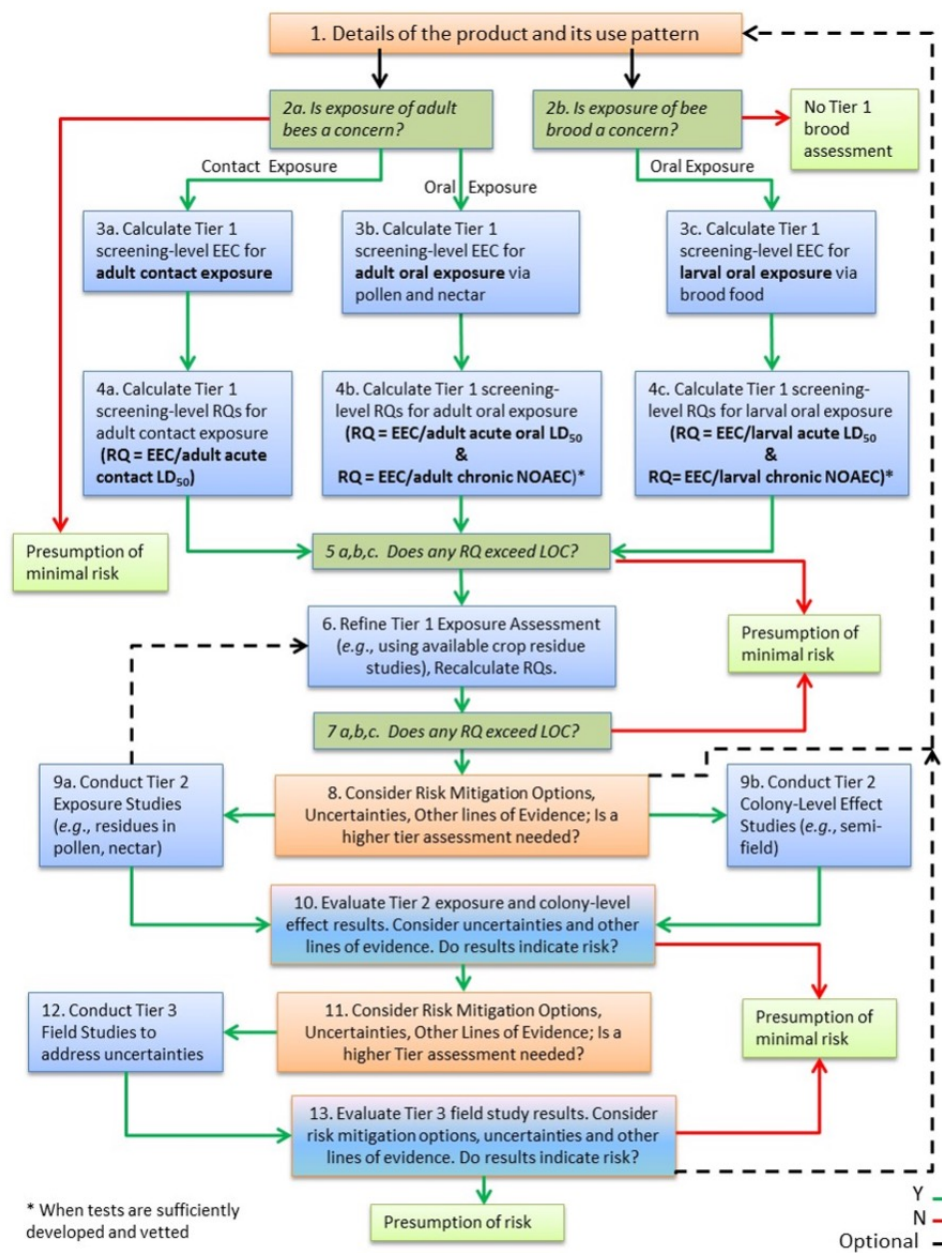


More refined

TIER I  
(LAB)

TIER II  
(SEMI-FIELD)

TIER III  
(FIELD)

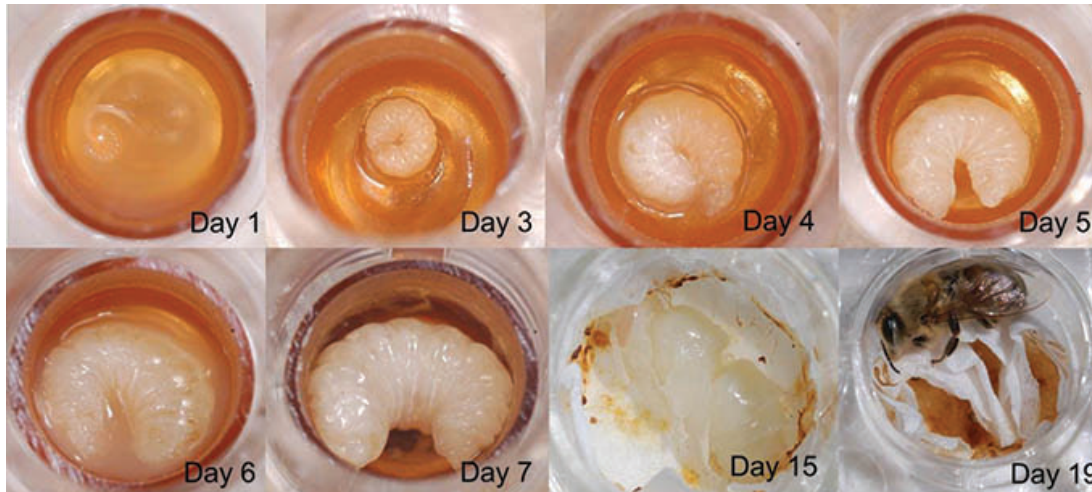


# TIER I

*Individual bees tested in the lab*



**ACUTE ADULT  
CONTACT**




**CHRONIC  
LAVAL ORAL**



# Fluazaindolizine: Ecological Risk Assessment for Section 3 New Chemical

## July 12, 2021

**Table 5-5. Terrestrial Toxicity Endpoints for Degradates of Fluazaindolizine**

Study Type	Test Substance (% a.i.)	Test Species	Toxicity Value in $\mu\text{g a.i./L}$ (of degradate) (unless otherwise specified)	MRID No./ Classification	Comments
Acute contact and oral (adult)	IN-F4106 (97.2% a.i.)	Honey bee ( <i>A. mellifera</i> L.)	<u>Contact</u> 48-h LD <sub>50</sub> = <b>17.8 <math>\mu\text{g a.i./bee}</math></b> <u>Oral</u> 48-h LC <sub>50</sub> >100 $\mu\text{g a.i./bee}$	50932357 Acceptable	Sublethal effects were observed in contact groups (affected/moribund). Volume of food consumption per bee decreased as concentration level increased.
 Acute contact and oral (adult)	IN-F4106 (97.2% a.i.)	Bumble bee ( <i>Bombus terrestris</i> )	<u>Contact</u> 48-h LD <sub>50</sub> >100 $\mu\text{g a.i./bee}$ <u>Oral</u> 48-h LC <sub>50</sub> >67.4 $\mu\text{g a.i./bee}$	50932365 Acceptable	No sublethal effects were observed.
Chronic (adult)	IN-F4106 (97.2% a.i.)	Honey bee ( <i>A. mellifera</i> L.)	<b>NOAEL = 2.8 <math>\mu\text{g a.i./bee/d}</math></b> LOAEL = 4.3 $\mu\text{g a.i./bee/d}$	50932359 Supplemental	NOAEL based on food consumption. Food consumption effects seemed to be solvent related in the lower doses and control groups.
Chronic oral (larva)	IN-F4106 (97.2% a.i.)	Honey bee ( <i>A. mellifera</i> L.)	NOAEL = 2.78 $\mu\text{g a.i./larva/d}$ <b>LD<sub>50</sub> = 6.53 <math>\mu\text{g a.i./larva/d}</math></b>	50932362 Supplemental	NOAEL based on mortality. Mortality reached 100% in the highest treatment level. Unconsumed food was noted at all treatment levels on day 8.

# TIER I

*These lab test results are contextualized*



How much of the pesticide the bee is likely to encounter in the field after application

This is called the **Estimated Environmental Concentration** or **EEC**

# TIER I

*conservative estimates of risk*



$$\text{risk quotient (RQ)} = \frac{\text{estimated environmental concentration (EEC)}}{\text{LD}_{50}}$$



# TIER I

*conservative estimates of risk  
using contact route of exposure*

(dose a bee is expected to contact in the environment)

$$0.01 = \frac{0.10 \mu\text{g}/\text{bee}}{10 \mu\text{g}/\text{bee}}$$

✓

(lethal dose)

# TIER I

*What does a level of concern  
of 0.4 mean?*

**0.4 =**


**background mortality**

# TIER I

*conservative estimates of risk  
using contact route of exposure*

(dose a bee is expected to contact in the environment)

$$0.5 = \frac{0.10 \mu\text{g}/\text{bee}}{0.20 \mu\text{g}/\text{bee}}$$



(lethal dose)

# Refining – further lines of evidence



## Estimated Environmental Concentration

MEASURED RESIDUE LEVELS IN POLLEN AND NECTAR CAN BE USED TO REFINE RISK ESTIMATES.

# TIER II and III

## *colony level and semi-field/field trials*

Exposure Potential of Bees

### Tier I (Lab)

- Individual-level effects
- Default or refined exposure

### Tier II (Semi-Field)

- Colony-level effects
- Tunnel, feeding

### Tier III (Full-Field)

- Colony-level effects
- Actual crop, use pattern

Measure residue in  
pollen and nectar



A. Melathopoulos



# TIER II and III

*colony level and semi-field/field trials*

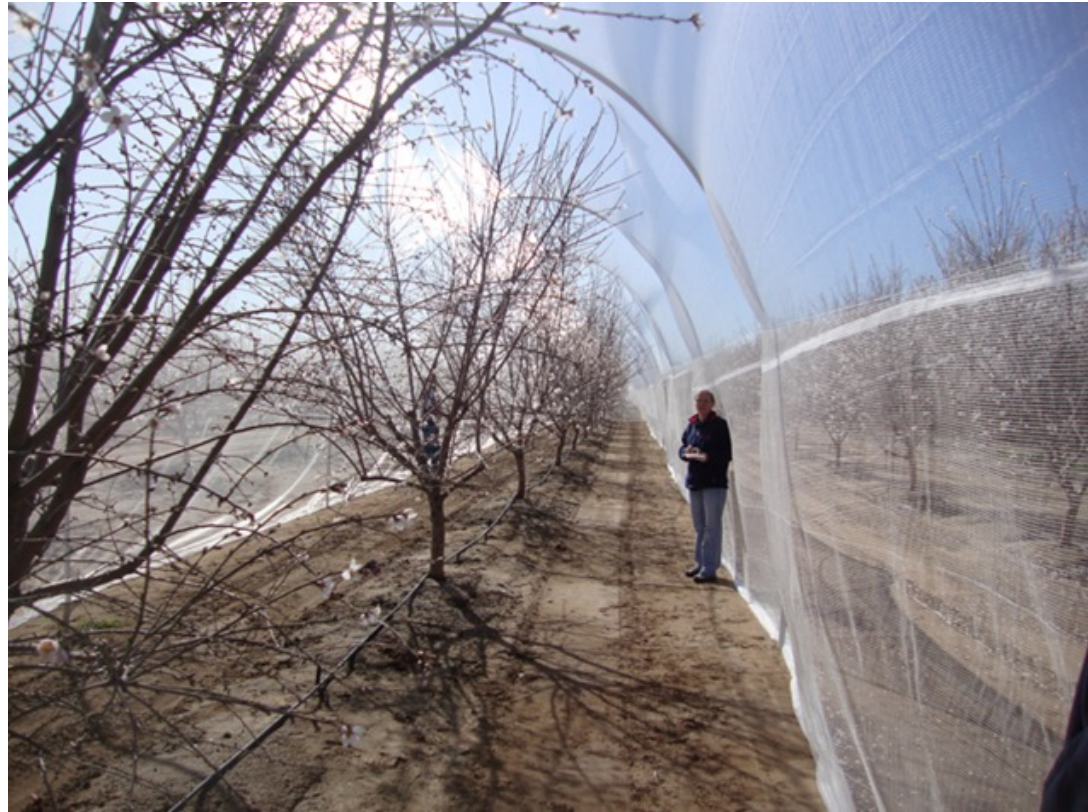


photo credit Smithers Viscient



[oregonbeeplate.org](http://oregonbeeplate.org)

# THANK YOU!

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**Oregon State University**  
Extension Service