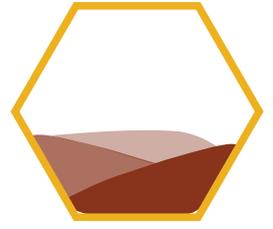




ASSESSING & PRIORITIZING PROJECT SITES



The selection of appropriate locations for pollinator habitat is important to protect pollinators from inputs such as pesticides and to maximize habitat benefits. Pollinators need food (pollen & nectar), nesting and clean water sources, so these are important components for site selection. As a general rule, the habitats most beneficial to local pollinators will be those that historically existed in that general area. This may mean treeless prairie habitat in some areas and tree and shrub planting in others. Below are some considerations for site selection, followed by habitat assessment calculators for rural and urban landscapes that can be used to further guide decision-making about pollinator habitat locations or to assess the quality of pollinator habitat before and after projects are completed. The following are key considerations for selecting pollinator habitat projects:



1) Look for areas away from pesticide and fungicide use, as well as areas that lack widespread disturbances that may impact pollinators (at least 200 feet).



2) Habitat complexes and corridors provide “safe zones” and natural passageways for pollinators, as well as nesting and forage sites, and sources of water.



3) Some bees have a relatively small flight distance and benefit from having water and food sources within 200 feet of nesting sites.



4) Ground nesting bees benefit from open soil and planting clump-forming native grasses. Cavity nesting bees benefit from hedgerows, windbreaks and treelines, as well as man-made nest structures.



ASSESSING & PRIORITIZING PROJECT SITES

RURAL LANDSCAPES



This calculator is intended to provide a rough estimation of habitat value.

1. SIZE OF PROJECT PROVIDING POLLINATOR HABITAT

- 1-10 acres 5 points
- 11-40 acres 10 points
- 41-79 acres 15 points
- > 80 acres 20 points

Total points

7. PESTICIDE RISK (% of project perimeter adjacent to pesticide use)

- 1-25% -4 points
- 26-50% -8 points
- 51-75% -12 points
- 76-100% -16 points

Total points

2. HABITAT TYPE (check all that apply)

- Prairie/Grassland 3 points
- Wetland 3 points
- Lake/River 3 points
- Savanna/Woodland 3 points
- Deciduous/Coniferous 3 points

Total points

8. LIKELIHOOD OF MEETING POLLINATOR SPECIES GOALS (professional judgement)

- Low 3 points
- Medium 6 points
- High 9 points

Total points

3. COVER DIVERSITY (# of plant species)

- 1-10 species 1 point
- 11-19 species 3 points
- 20-39 species 7 points
- > 40 species 10 points

Total points

9. EXPECTED PROJECT LIFESPAN

- 1-5 years 1 point
- 6-10 years 3 points
- 11-20 years 5 points
- Permanent 10 points

Total points

Exclude invasives from species totals.

4. SEASONS WITH 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT

- 1 season 3 points
- 2 seasons 7 points
- 3 seasons 10 points

Total points

Grand Total

5. HABITAT CONNECTIONS

- Isolated project 5 points
- Connected to other habitat 15 points
- Part of complex/corridor 20 points

Total points

Exceptional Quality Habitat **100-86**
 High Quality Habitat **85-71**
 Medium Quality Habitat **70-50**
 Low Quality Habitat **49-0**

6. AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS (check all that apply)

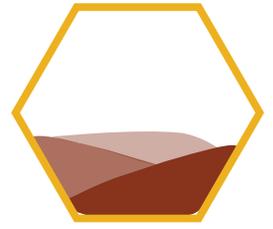
- Exposed soil for nesting 5 points
- Trees and shrubs for nesting 5 points
- Clean water sources 5 points

Total points



ASSESSING & PRIORITIZING PROJECT SITES

URBAN LANDSCAPES



This calculator is intended to provide a rough estimation of habitat value.

1. SIZE OF PROJECT PROVIDING POLLINATOR HABITAT

- <.1 acres 5 points
- 0.11 - 0.29 acres 10 points
- 0.3 - 0.5 acres 15 points
- > 0.5 acres 20 points

Total points

7. PESTICIDE RISK (% of project perimeter adjacent to pesticide use)

- 1-25% -4 points
- 26-50% -8 points
- 51-75% -12 points
- 76-100% -16 points

Total points

2. HABITAT TYPE (check all that apply)

- Prairie/Grassland 3 points
- Wetland 3 points
- Lake/River 3 points
- Savanna/Woodland 3 points
- Deciduous/Coniferous 3 points

Total points

8. LIKELIHOOD OF MEETING POLLINATOR SPECIES GOALS (professional judgement)

- Low 5 points
- Medium 10 points
- High 15 points

Total points

3. COVER DIVERSITY (# of plant species)

- 1-10 species 2 points
- 11-19 species 5 points
- 20-39 species 10 points
- > 40 species 15 points

Total points

9. EXPECTED PROJECT LIFESPAN

- 1-5 years 1 point
- 6-10 years 3 points
- 11-20 years 5 points
- Permanent 10 points

Total points

Exclude invasives from species totals.

4. SEASONS WITH 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT

- 1 season 4 points
- 2 seasons 8 points
- 3 seasons 12 points

Total points

Grand Total

5. HABITAT CONNECTIONS

- Isolated project 5 points
- Connected to other habitat 15 points
- Part of complex/corridor 20 points

Total points

Exceptional Quality Habitat **100-86**
 High Quality Habitat **85-71**
 Medium Quality Habitat **70-50**
 Low Quality Habitat **49-0**

6. AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS (check all that apply)

- Exposed soil for nesting 5 points
- Trees and shrubs for nesting 5 points
- Clean water sources 5 points

Total points