

Conservation Cover for Pollinators in Pennsylvania

Practice Installation Job Sheet

PA 327

Client:	Farm #:	Date:
Field(s):	Tract #:	Planned By:
Client Conservation Objectives:		

PURPOSE

This Practice Installation Job Sheet documents the process of establishing nectar and pollen habitat for bees in the form of wildflower meadow plantings. Other natural resources may also benefit, depending on your conservation objectives and the integration of this habitat with other conservation practices. Installation shall be in accordance with these requirements and any attached drawings. **No changes are to be made without prior approval from the technical specialist who approved the installation plan.**

For detailed instructions on each step in this Job Sheet, please see the *Conservation Cover for Pollinators in Pennsylvania Implementation Guide*.

KEY SITE CHARACTERISTICS

Risk of pesticide drift on site? Low to High Very Low to None

Weeds: weed pressure, and primary weed species of concern

Site history: historic and current plant cover, past use of land, pre-emergent herbicide use, compaction, etc.

Soils and habitat: soil texture (coarse to fine), drainage, and moisture level

Irrigation: availability and method (necessary if transplants are to be used)

Other concerns or conservation goals that may affect plant choice or site preparation and planting:

PLANT SELECTION: WILDFLOWER SEED MIX (See Appendix in the *Implementation Guide*)

Mesic Site Seed Mix Wetland Site Seed Mix Custom Seed Mix

Note any species substitutions here or attach copy of custom seed mix:

Note: Transplants may be preferred when seed is not available, weed pressure is high, or when a particular species is difficult to establish by seed. Transplanting can be most cost-effective when using plug plants. Conservation Cover can also include woody plants. See *Hedgerows for Pollinators in Pennsylvania Job Sheet and Implementation Guide* for suggested woody plants.

Note any woody or herbaceous species established from transplants here:

SITE PREPARATION METHOD (Choose an option and note any adjustments):

- Herbicide Solarization
- Severe weed pressure? (If so, an additional year of site prep or the use of transplants should be considered. See the *Implementation Guide* for information on assessing weed pressure)

Adjustments:

PLANTING METHOD (Choose option(s) and note adjustments here):

- Broadcasting: by Machine or Hand Native Seed Drill
- Drop Seeding Transplants

Adjustments:

MAINTENANCE DURING ESTABLISHMENT (check all that potentially apply)

- Spot Spraying Weeds with Herbicide Hand Weeding and/or Hoeing
- Grass Specific or Other Selective Herbicide Other: _____
- Managing Irrigation Other: _____
- Mowing / String-Trimming at 6 inches or higher Other: _____

LONG TERM SITE OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

Control herbivores as needed, but remove plant guards or other materials that could impede plant growth as soon as possible after establishment.

In most cases, irrigation of transplants is no longer required by the end of the second growing season after planting. Maintain the long-term plant diversity of pollinator habitat by re-seeding or re-planting as necessary.

Finally, after establishment, no more than 30% of the habitat area should be mowed, grazed or burned in any one year to ensure sufficient undisturbed areas for pollinators and other wildlife. Do not mow or burn during critical wildlife nesting seasons (consult your state wildlife biologist for specific guidance). Continue to protect habitat from pesticide applications and drift (especially insecticides and bee-toxic fungicides). Herbicide spot-treatments and weeding may be used to control noxious or invasive plants.

CHECK OUT AND CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

I certify that the above Design and Installation requirements (circle one) *have / have not* been met in accordance with the criteria of the Conservation Practice 327. The _____ acres of this practice installed on the locations covered by this job sheet were installed on the date(s) of _____.

Signature of Designated Conservationist or Technical Service Provider

Date