Managing Wild Bees for Crop Pollination

**Pesticides:** Apply insecticides at dawn or dusk when bees are less active. Use neonicotinoids sparingly as they may adversely affect bees.

**Flowering Crops:** Plant flowering crops to increase overall bee populations within fields.

**Within Field Diversity:** Enhance crop pollination by attracting multiple pollinator species with a variety of crops and native plants within a single field.

**Hedgerows and Forb Strips:** Provide nectar and pollen for native bees by replacing weedy field edges with native California flowering shrubs and forbs.

**Crop Rotation:** Some bees only pollinate one specific crop. Support these specialist bees by rotating crops short distances.

**Undisturbed Bare Ground:** Create habitat for ground-nesting bees by leaving areas of soil bare and undisturbed.

**Tilling:** Use conservation tillage to avoid harming the ground nests of bees within fields.

For more information on native bee conservation, please visit:
www.Xerces.org
www.Pollinator.org
www.PollinatorFarm.wordpress.com
www.NativeBeeResearch.wordpress.com

This research was funded by the National Institute for Food and Agriculture, Western Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education, the National Science Foundation, and the Specialty Crop Research Initiative.