

# 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.

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

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

**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.

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For more information on native bee conservation, please visit:  
[www.Xerces.org](http://www.Xerces.org)  
[www.Pollinator.org](http://www.Pollinator.org)  
[www.PollinatorFarm.wordpress.com](http://www.PollinatorFarm.wordpress.com)  
[www.NativeBeeResearch.wordpress.com](http://www.NativeBeeResearch.wordpress.com)

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