

## Rabe Farms-Application

March 10, 2025

1. A requirement for certification is to provide blooming forage for pollinators from spring through autumn. In your application, you listed that you provide blooming forage for pollinators in Spring and Summer and that you provide the following plant species provided for the pollinators: "Fillaree, Lemon Grass and other forbs". Please indicate whether you have fall forage for pollinators, and provide species that provide this fall bloom. This can include plants from around any gardens in landscaping from residences on the property, weedy ditches, hedgerows, flowering trees, etc.

There is fall forage from gardens and landscaping in residences. Fall blooms include asters, chrysanthemums, roses, tomatoes and peppers.

2. Thank you for providing a photo of your cover crops. Please provide at least one additional photo that is not of the cover crops that demonstrates plants that bloom in summer or fall for the pollinators. Note: they do not need to be in bloom currently. If the plant can be identifiable by a member of our staff, it will be accepted.

Please see attached photos.

3. You have indicated that you *do not* have nesting habitat for pollinators. This is a requirement for certification. Please let me know if you would like to modify your answer, and if so, what nesting features you have. This can include: bare undisturbed and unsprayed ground, weedy unsprayed ditches, hedgerows, piles of woody debris for wood burrowing pollinators, etc. Please let me know if you would like me to provide additional examples of nesting features.

There is nesting habitat for pollinators, please update the answer on the application. Features that are present include bare ground which is not disturbed or spraying around the yard, on ditch banks and around the shop buildings. There are also piles of woody debris, old red wood stakes and other wood from the almond trees which have died.

4. Please provide a photo of item 3 if a nesting feature can be identified.

Please see attached photos.

5. You have indicated that you have 0 acres of habitat. A requirement for certification is to provide 3% of your cropped acreage in forage for the bees. With the 65 acres of production you specified, this would mean you would need 1.95 acres of forage (habitat). This can include your cover crop acreage, areas identified in item 3, weedy unmanaged areas. Please let me know if you would like me to modify your answer for total habitat acres.

Please modify this answer to 46 acres (cover crop, yards, and unmanaged areas).

6. If an area for nesting is identified on the property, please indicate where. This feature is required to be labeled on your farm map. If you provide me with the details as to where, I can add this in for you.

Please see attached updated map.





