POLLINATOR PARTNERSHIP

Protect their lives. Preserve ours.

Farm Information

Farm Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Primary Production: _____

Other Production: _____

Farm Size: _____ Units: _____

Total Cropped Size: _____ Units: _____

Physical Address of Farm

Address Line 1: _____

Address Line 2: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____ Country: _____

Mailing Address of Farm

Address Line 1: _____

Address Line 2: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____ Country: _____

Existing Certifications: ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

If yes, *please attach a copy of your Existing Certification with your BFF application.*

Pollinator Habitat

Bees feed on pollen (protein source) and nectar (carbohydrate source) from flowering plants. Bee forage can include native vegetation, ornamental plants, weeds, cover crops, and more. Having a range of perennial and annual plants that flower throughout the year, as well as creating and maintaining permanent habitat and a supply of clean, fresh water when applicable helps maintain bees (and other beneficial organisms) in the environment. Honey bees and native stingless bees can be managed on farms in hives. Unmanaged honey bees and native stingless bees inhabit tree hollows and other cavities. However, the majority of native bees are solitary and are ground nesting (which create individual nest burrows in undisturbed soil) or cavity nesting (which create individual nests in plant material such as fronds, twigs, and small branches). Increasing the area and type of annual and permanent bee floral resources and nesting locations will create ecological infrastructures and connectivity across agricultural landscapes.

Does your farm have non-cropped/non-harvested flowering plants and nesting areas for bees? (Any plants or parts of plants in production that are harvested and sold cannot be considered as forage in the BFF Program.) ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Forage

Location of Bee Forage and Habitat (*Select all that apply)*:

☐ Inside crop area ☐ Outside crop area, but within 500 feet of crop area

☐ Outside crop area, and further than 500 feet from crop area

Type of Forage (*Select all that apply)*:

☐ Bee-attracting flowering perennials ☐ Bee-attracting flowering annuals

☐ Ornamental plants/garden ☐ Shelter belts

☐ Ground covers/cover crops (eg. clovers, mustard, vetch) ☐ Restored native meadows

☐ Pollinator-friendly wildlife plantings ☐ Bee-attracting flowering fallow crops

☐ Flowering hedgerows ☐ Flowering trees that provide nectar/pollen

☐ Insectary garden ☐ Remnant or restored native vegetation/plantings

☐ Weedy or fallow areas not managed (allowed to flower) ☐ Other:

Please list the flowering plants provided for bees on-farm by the season in which they bloom:

Spring (March-May)	Summer (June-August)	Fall (September-October)	Winter (November-February)

Forage features include flowering plants on the entire property, or on a different property managed or owned by the same entity (the applicant) within a 2-mile radius. Total forage area does not include grasses, conifers, ferns, or on-farm cropped commodities. Forage can include permanent features, such as hedgerows, and temporary features, such as cover crops. Forage on 3% of your total-cropped-acreage minimum is required to reach BFF Top Tier.

_____ Units: _____

Pictures of your Bee Forage: *Please attach photos of your bee forage with your BFF application. More than one photo of Bee Forage will be required.*

Nesting

Does your farm have nesting habitat for bees? ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Nesting Area (*Select all that apply)*:

- ☐ Undisturbed, untilled ground (includes bare or patchy soil, small cut bank, and sand piles)
- ☐ Dead trees, snags, branches, or twigs
- ☐ Hedgerows
- ☐ Bufferstrips
- ☐ Shelter belts
- ☐ Remnant native vegetation
- ☐ Native bee nesting boxes
- ☐ Other:

Pictures of your Nesting Habitat: *Please attach a photo(s) of your nesting habitat with your BFF application. Cover cropping, honey bee boxes or apiaries, and other non-permanent nesting features will not be accepted for this requirement. Nesting features must be permanent and undisturbed.*

Temporary Habitat Size:
Temporary Habitat includes areas of the farm property that often needs to be reseeded or replanted annually, such as cover cropped areas.
_____ Units: _____

Permanent Habitat Size:
Permanent Habitat includes areas of the farm property that are either left wild or managed for the express purpose of promoting biodiversity, wildlife corridors, landscape level continuity for flora and fauna, with a specific focus on bee forage. This area experiences minimal disturbance and lasts a minimum of three years. A 0.5% of total-cropped-acreage minimum is required for new applications attempting to reach BFF tier three. Require by all by 2027.
_____ Units: _____

Farm Map: *Please attach a farm map with your BFF application. Maps must have the following features clearly labeled- bee forage, water source, nesting habitat.*

Water

Do you keep bees: ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Do you introduce bees or alternative pollinators for the intent of crop production? ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

If yes, how many hives do you keep: _____

How many native, stingless bee hives do you keep: _____

Does your farm have a clean water source for bees? ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Is your farm located in a county/region with government mandated water restrictions?

☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

If yes, explain:

Water Source (*Select all that apply)*:

- ☐ River/Creek
- ☐ Pond
- ☐ Rain water collection
- ☐ Other:
- ☐ Dam
- ☐ Irrigation
- ☐ Garden water features

Pictures of your Water Source: *Please attach a photo(s) of your water source with your BFF application*.

Integrated Pest Management

IPM is a decision and action process that incorporates pest monitoring and identification, decision making based on thresholds or models, the use of multi-faceted approaches that combine chemical, physical, biological, and cultural control methods, prevention of infestations, record keeping, and resistance management. This process relies on evaluations of previous methodologies and damages to make iterative improvements. IPM results in the increased protection of pollinators and is an essential tool for their conservation.

Do you consider that you practice Integrated Pest Management (IPM)?

☐ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **Not Sure**

Monitoring Identification

Proper identification and monitoring of pests is vital in understanding the specific situation and potential mitigation with any possible pest infestations. Applicants must show how monitoring occurs, by whom, where the information for identification is coming from (extension guidelines, etc.), and if records are stored.

Where do you get your information on pest management?

- ☐ University
- ☐ Extension
- ☐ Agronomist
- ☐ Industry body
- ☐ Private consultant
- ☐ Other:

Do you treat for pests and diseases? ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Which pests do you primarily treat for?

Do you monitor for beneficial organisms? ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Do you monitor for pests? ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

How do you monitor for pests? (*Select all that apply)*

- ☐ Egg traps
- ☐ Pheromone traps
- ☐ Sticky cards
- ☐ Sweep netting
- ☐ Scouting or visual inspections
- ☐ Other:

How often does monitoring occur? _____

Who conducts monitoring? (*Select all that apply)*

- ☐ Outside contractor
- ☐ Farm staff
- ☐ University Extension Service
- ☐ State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Yourself
- ☐ Advisor or consultant
- ☐ Other:

Are detailed records of monitoring collected and maintained? ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Decision Making

Management decisions need to be based on monitoring and assessing whether threshold levels have been met. Certified members must adhere to established threshold guidelines developed by extension agencies, commodity groups, or other leaders in their respective systems. This form asks you to clearly state which guidelines are being followed. Decisions can also be made using models. By using these types of models, growers can make science-based decisions in developing management plans and predicting potential damage. This is important because it ensures that growers are applying management strategies at the proper time and avoiding unnecessary applications and thereby reducing pesticide exposure to pollinators.

Do you base your spray decisions on:

- ☐ Degree day modelling
- ☐ Delta T
- ☐ Economic thresholds
- ☐ Other:

Prevention

An important aspect of IPM is the principle of avoiding potential infestations. Small steps can be taken to mitigate outbreaks, many of which directly benefit pollinators. Growers are required to practice at least 2 preventative measures

Please select all prevention techniques used (*Select all that apply; 2 required)*:

- ☐ Beetle banks
- ☐ Conservation cover
- ☐ Companion planting
- ☐ Crop rotation
- ☐ Cultural practices to improve air flow
- ☐ Eliminate alternate hosts or sites for pests and disease
- ☐ Intercroppinig
- ☐ Late/early watering
- ☐ Mating disruption
- ☐ Mechanical pest removal
- ☐ Mulching, hand weeding, mechanical weeding, or grazing
- ☐ Physical barriers
- ☐ Sanitation- Equipment
- ☐ Sanitation- Removal of debris/ infested plant material
- ☐ Soil solarization
- ☐ Strip cropping
- ☐ Trap cropping
- ☐ Use of resistant varieties
- ☐ Use of cover crops, manures, and composts

Describe any other ways you prevent pest outbreaks in lieu of pesticide applications:

How do you encourage biological control agents and pollinators on your farm?

- ☐ Minimize sprays
- ☐ Using selective sprays
- ☐ Releasing beneficials
- ☐ Providing nesting habitat
- ☐ Providing alternative food sources
- ☐ Other:

Intervention

Growers are required to use a multi-faceted approach that combines physical, biological, chemical, and cultural control methods. IPM benefits from a combination of management approaches that can use different modes of action and strategies, taking advantage of physiological, ecological, and behavioral characteristics of the target pests. Non-pesticide approaches reduce potentially toxic exposure to pollinators. The means of applying chemicals are also important in mitigating exposure to pollinators. Growers are required to demonstrate which management strategies they are implementing.

Do you use chemical treatments? ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

What is the average temperature during spray? (*Select*)

- ☐ Below 55 ^{o}F
- ☐ Between 55 ^{o}F and 75 ^{o}F
- ☐ Above 75 ^{o}F

What type of spray application equipment is most commonly used for your applications? (*Select*)

- ☐ Ground
- ☐ Aerial
- ☐ By hand
- ☐ Other:

When do the majority of sprays occur? (*Select*)

- ☐ Early morning (4:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.)
- ☐ Morning (7:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.)
- ☐ Afternoon (12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.)
- ☐ Night (5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.)
- ☐ Other (10:00 p.m. - 4:00 a.m.)

Describe how you mitigate drift during sprays:

What do you do to limit pollinator contact with chemicals? (*Check all that apply)*

- ☐ Read and comply with labels
- ☐ Never apply in the presence of bloom that may attract pollinators
- ☐ No use of dust or wettable or soluble powder formulations
- ☐ Avoid tank mixing
- ☐ Use low toxicity, rapidly degradable chemicals
- ☐ No spraying in windy days or near water sources
- ☐ Never apply when unusually low temperatures or dew are forecast following treatment
- ☐ Establish buffers between treated areas and hives or pollinator habitat
- ☐ Inform adjacent growers and applicators of hive locations
- ☐ Inform adjacent beekeepers of possible pesticide use in adjacent crops
- ☐ Other:

If spillage occurs, how do you prevent risk to pollinators?

How do you manage weeds? (*Check all that apply)*

- ☐ Mowing
- ☐ Herbicide application
- ☐ Prescribed burning
- ☐ Other:

Have you taken a pesticide certification class in the past three years? ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**
If yes, upload Proof of Certification: *Please attach proof of certification with your BFF application.*

Evaluation
Many of these principles can and may need to be adjusted as seasons change. Adapting farming

practices to new methods, changes in the environment, or emerging pests are essential to developing impactful IPM programs. We are interested to learn more about the internal process and decision making for adapting to these situations and how pollinator health is incorporated in these decisions. Annual assessments of the effectiveness of current IPM practices should be conducted to make improvements to the program or incorporate new techniques or technologies.

Do you regularly evaluate the efficacy of your IPM program? ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Describe any changes to your IPM program over the past three growing seasons:

Resistance Management

Pest populations can develop resistance to specific pesticides through continued use of the same Mode of Action (MoA). Alternating MoAs, applying at appropriate rates and timings, calibrating equipment, and many other techniques can all help prevent resistance evolution. A passing BFF application will demonstrate the use of at least one resistance management technique recommended by the Insecticide Resistance Action Committee (IRAC).

Briefly describe how you manage for resistance (see http://www.irac-online.org/documents/moa-classification/):

Briefly describe any additional information about your pest management program that may benefit pollinators:

☐ I confirm that the information given on this form is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true and accurate. I understand that if I have given misleading information on this form, this will be sufficient grounds for terminating my certification. I consent to the automatically recurring, yearly payment of $75 to renew my certification, and acknowledge cancelling this payment will constitute grounds for terminating my certification.

☐ I consent to sharing my contact information with Pollinator Partnership via this form submission and understand that neither my contact information nor my data will be shared.

☐ I consent to Pollinator Partnership using my photos submitted via this form with proper credit. (*Optional)*