

Senate-Passed Farm Bill
Pollinator-Beneficial Provisions

NOTE: H.R. 2409 as passed by the Senate may be accessed at:
http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110_cong_bills&docid=f:h2419eas.txt.pdf
Page #'s referenced below are for this GPO document.

TITLE II—CONSERVATION

Conservation Reserve Program

P. 321.~

Section 2311(a). CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM..

Subsection (a) reauthorizes and extends the program until 2012 and adds conserving pollinator habitat as a purpose.

“(2) by striking ‘and wildlife’ and inserting ‘wildlife, **and pollinator habitat**’.

P. 330~

Pollinator added among the factors to be considered in the balance of natural resource purposes for the CRP.

Section 2311(f). BALANCE OF NATURAL RESOURCE PURPOSES.

*(f) BALANCE OF NATURAL RESOURCE PURPOSES.—Section 1231(j) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C.3831(j)) is amended by striking ‘and wildlife’ and inserting ‘wildlife, and **pollinator**’.*

P. 333~

Section 2311(j). ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT OFFERS.

Pollinator habitat added to list of factors in evaluation of CRP contract offers.

“(3) ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT OFFERS.—“(A) EVALUATION OF OFFERS.—*In determining the acceptability of contract offers, the Secretary may take into consideration the extent to which enrollment of the land that is the subject of the contract offer would improve soil resources, water quality, **pollinator**, fish, or wildlife **habitat**, or provide other environmental benefits.*

Conservation Stewardship Program

P. 362~

Section 2341. COMPREHENSIVE STEWARDSHIP INCENTIVES PROGRAM.

Helping producers comply with requirements concerning pollinator habitat one of the specified purposes of the CSP.

“SEC. 1240U. PURPOSES.

“*The purpose of the conservation stewardship program is to promote agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible goals, and to optimize environmental benefits, by assisting producers—*

“(3) in complying with Federal, State, tribal, and local requirements concerning— “(A) soil, water, and air quality; “(B) fish, wildlife, and **pollinator habitat**; and

P. 364~

Section 2341. COMPREHENSIVE STEWARDSHIP INCENTIVES PROGRAM.

Managed pollinators included in the definition of livestock as related to assistance for comprehensive conservation planning assistance and incentives.

“(5) **LIVESTOCK**.—*The term ‘livestock’ means dairy cattle, beef cattle, laying hens, broilers, turkeys, swine, sheep, goats, ducks, ratites, shellfish, alpacas, bison, catfish, **managed pollinators**, and such other animals and fish as are determined by the Secretary.*”

Environmental Quality Incentives Program

The Senate-passed bill would provide \$1,07 billion more in mandatory funding over the period from 2008-2012 than the previous 5 year period. **Pollinator habitat** is *highlighted as an eligible activity*.

p. 397~

Subchapter B—Environmental Quality Incentives Program.

This section adds “forest management”, “**pollinators**” *as a purpose of the program*, and generally adds emphasis on forestry issues within the program.

SEC. 2351. PURPOSES.

“*Section 1240 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa) is amended— (B) by inserting ‘**pollinators**,’ after ‘wetland),’; and*

TITLE VII—RESEARCH AND RELATED MATTERS

Adds the following to the *list of high-priority research and extension initiatives*: **Colony Collapse Disorder and Pollinator Research Program**.

PP. 1046-47~

Section 7102. HIGH-PRIORITY RESEARCH AND EXTENSION INITIATIVES.

Establishes a high priority research initiative re Colony Collapse Disorder and pollinators.

SEC. 7102. HIGH-PRIORITY RESEARCH AND EXTENSION INITIATIVES.

“(46) **COLONY COLLAPSE DISORDER AND POLLINATOR RESEARCH PROGRAM**.—

Research and extension grants may be made to—

“(A) *survey and collect data on bee colony production and health;*

“(B) *investigate **pollinator biology, immunology, ecology, genomics, and bioinformatics**;*

“(C) *conduct research on various factors that may be contributing to or associated with **colony collapse disorder, and other serious threats to the health of honey bees and other pollinators**, including—*

“(i) ***parasites and pathogens of pollinators**; and*

“(ii) the sublethal effects of insecticides, herbicides, and fungicides on honey bees and native and managed pollinators;

“(D) develop mitigative and preventative measures to improve native and managed pollinator health; and

“(E) promote the health of honey bees and native pollinators through habitat conservation and best management practices.

PP. 1059~

Section 7211. Specialty Crop Research Initiative.

...adds pollination research as a purpose:

“(7) methods of improving the supply and effectiveness of pollination for specialty crop production;”

Wide range of entities eligible for funding, including private organizations and individuals.

Mandatory funding at \$16 million annually, or \$80 million total over 5-year life of farm bill.

CONSERVATION TITLE SUMMARY 1-PAGER

NOTE: *Summary of Chairman’s mark for Agriculture Committee markup.*

- The **Environmental Quality Incentives Program** (EQIP) is funded at baseline levels through 2012. Forest management, *pollinator habitat* and organics are added as eligible activities.
- Maintains the **Conservation Reserve Program** at 39.2 million acres. Adds *pollinator habitat as a purpose of the program.*
- **Wildlife and agriculture work together:** Agricultural and forest lands provide a wealth of wildlife habitat and conservation programs help improve the quality and connectivity of that habitat. Working land programs can maintain residue providing cover and food, *while buffers that shield fields or shelter livestock can be managed for native pollinators.* Easements and buffers provide corridors that benefit species movement and protect aquatic habitat while protecting agriculture from the pressures of development.