

New York Agricultural Statistics Service Dept. of Agriculture & Markets 10B Airline Drive Albany, NY 12235 518-457-5570 1-800-821-1276 Fax: 1-800-591-3834



Cornell University

## **APPLE POLLINATION SURVEY 2009**

- 1. How many total acres do you have in apple cultivation? ..... Acres 2. How many apple varieties do you grow? ..... Varieties For Questions 3-16, please circle your answer 3. What is the primary habitat surrounding your orchard? Orchard Suburban Forest Meadow Agricultural Other 4. Do you rent honey bees for apple pollination? Never Sometimes Always 5. Do you view honey bee colonies as a major or minor expense? Major Minor 6. What would you estimate to be the number of native bee species that visit apple blossoms in New York State? 1 10 30 40 100 7. Do you view native bees (honey bees are not native) as valuable pollinators in your apple orchard? Yes No Maybe
- 8. Would you be surprised if native bees were important pollinators of apple trees in New York State? Yes No Maybe

- Are you familiar with alternative managed apple pollinators such as orchard mason bees (genus Osmia)?
   Yes No Maybe
- Have you ever used commercially available orchard mason bees, such as the blue orchard mason bee (Osmia lignaria), for apple pollination? Yes No Maybe
- Have you ever considered relying entirely on the natural occurring native bees for pollination of apples? Yes No Maybe
- 12. How would you describe your management practices regarding pesticides, herbicides, fungicides, etc.? Conventional Integrated pest management (IPM) Organic Other: (*please indicate*)
- If/when you use chemical treatments, do you take into consideration the impact on pollinators?
   Yes No Sometimes
- 14. Would you consider adopting *(low-cost)* land management practices that would increase the diversity and abundance of native bees in and around your farm?
   Yes No Maybe *(please elaborate)*
- Do you view recent declines in honey bee populations due to colony collapse disorder (CCD) a threat to successful apple production? Yes No Maybe
- 16. In your experience, is successful apple pollination limited by the availability and/or abundance of bees (e.g., have you ever experienced poor fruit set because of a shortage of native or managed bees)? Yes No Maybe

### **Mid-Atlantic Apple Pollination Survey 2010**

D. Biddinger & E. Rajotte, Penn State University Adapted from a Cornell University Survey by Mia Park

- 1. If you use honey bees for apple pollination, what is the average number of hives used on a per acre basis or indicate if less than 1/acre?...../Acre or 1 per ..... acres
- 2. If you rented honey bees for pollination in 2010, how much did you pay per

hive?.....\$

- 3. What percentage of apple pollination on your farm do you consider is being provided by bees other than honey bees? .....%
- 4. What would you estimate to be the number of native bee <u>species</u> that visit apple blossoms in Pennsylvania? (circle one answer)
  - 1 10 50 100 200 300

#### For Questions 5-25, please circle one answer

- What is the primary habitat surrounding your orchards?
   Orchards Suburban Forest Meadow Agricultural Other
- 6. Do you rent honey bees for apple pollination?

Never Sometimes Frequently Always Don't Know

- Do you consider honey bee colonies as a major expense on your farm?
   Never Sometimes Frequently Always Don't Know
- Native bees (honey bees are not native) are valuable pollinators in your apple orchard?
   Never Sometimes Frequently Always Don't Know
- Alternative managed apple pollinators such as orchard mason bees (genus Osmia) can be important in PA apple orchards.
  - Never Sometimes Frequently Always Don't Know

10. Have you ever used commercially available bumble bees for apple pollination?

Never Sometimes Frequently Always Don't Know

11. Have you ever used commercially available orchard mason bees, such as the blue orchard mason bee (Osmia lignaria) or the Japanese Orchard bee (Osmia cornifrons) for apple pollination?

Never Sometimes Frequently Always Don't Know

12. Have you ever considered relying entirely on the natural occurring native bees for pollination of apples?

Never Sometimes Frequently Always Don't Know

13. If/when you use insecticide treatments, do you take into consideration the impact on pollinators?

Never Sometimes Frequently Always Don't Know

14. Would you consider adopting *(low-cost)* land management practices that would increase the diversity and abundance of native bees in and around your farm?

Never Sometimes Frequently Always Don't Know

15. Do you consider recent declines in honey bee populations due to colony collapse disorder (CCD) a threat to successful apple production in your orchards?

Never Sometimes Frequently Always Don't Know

16. In your experience, is successful apple pollination limited by the availability and/or abundance of bees (e.g., have you ever experienced poor fruit set because of a shortage of native or managed bees)?

Never Sometimes Frequently Always Don't Know

17. How would you describe your management practices regarding pesticides, herbicides, fungicides, etc.?

Conventional Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Organic Other: (please indicate)

18. Are you aware that USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service will cost share pollinator habitat creation and maintenance?

Yes No

19. Is any part of your apple crop enrolled in this NRCS pollinator habitat program?

Yes No						
20. What state is your farm in?						
21. How many to	otal acres do you have in apple cultivation?					
22. Do you also	grow stones fruits (i.e. cherry, peach/nectarines and plums?	Yes or No				
23. Do you also grow vegetable crops? Yes or No						
24. How many a	apple varieties do you grow?					
25. What county	is the majority of your orchard in?					

# Cornell University Apple Pollination Survey 2012

	1.	How many total acres do you have in apple cultivation? Acres				
	2.	How many apple varieties do you grow? Varieties				
For	th	e following questions please check one response only.				
	3.	What percent of your <b>total</b> income is derived from apple production?				
		0-25% 25-50% 50-75% 75-100%				
	4.	Do you also grow stone fruits (i.e., cherry, peach/nectarines and plums)? 🗌 Yes 🗌 No				
	5.	Do you also grow vegetable crops? 🗌 Yes 🗌 No				
	6.	What is the primary habitat surrounding your orchard?				
		🗌 Orchard 🔲 Suburban 🔛 Forest 🗌 Meadow 🗌 Agricultural 🗌 Other:				
	7.	Do you rely on (e.g., rent, borrow, use neighbor's) honey bees for apple pollination?				
		Always Frequently Sometimes Never Don't Know				
		If you rely on honey bees, what is the average number of hives used on a per acre basis?/ acre				
	8.	Do you RENT honey bee colonies? 🗌 Yes 🗌 No				
	<b>IF <i>YES</i></b> , how much did you pay per hive in 2012? \$					
		IF YES, how do you view this expense for your apple production?				
		Major Moderate Minor No opinion				
	9.	What would you estimate to be the number of native bee <u>species</u> that visit apple blossoms in New York State?				
		1       10       30       40       100       Don't know				
	10.	How <b>valuable</b> do you view native bees (honey bees are not native) as pollinators in your apple orchard?				
		Very Moderately Slightly Not at all Don't know				
	11. What proportion of apple pollination on your farm do you believe is provided by bees other than honey bees?					
		0-25% 25-50% 50-75% 75-100% Don't Know				

12. Have you ever considered relying entirely on natural occurring native bees for pollination of apples?						
Always Frequently Sometimes Never Don't Know						
13. Have you ever used commercially available bumble bees for apple pollination?						
Always Frequently Sometimes Never Don't Know						
14. Besides bumble bees, are you familiar with other alternative managed apple pollinators, such as orchard mason bees (genus Osmia)? Yes No						
15. Have you ever used commercially available orchard mason bees, such as the Blue Orchard bee ( <i>Osmia lignaria</i> ) or the Hornfaced bee ( <i>O. cornifrons</i> ), for apple pollination? Yes No						
16. How would you describe your management practices regarding pesticides, herbicides, and fungicides?						
Conventional Integrated pest management (IPM) Organic Other:						
17. If/when you use chemical treatments, do you take into consideration the impact on pollinators?						
18. Do you view recent declines in honey bee populations due to colony collapse disorder (CCD) a threat to successful apple production? Yes No Maybe/Don't Know						
19. In your experience, is successful apple pollination limited by the availability and/or abundance of bees (e.g., have you ever experienced poor fruit set because of a shortage of native or managed bees)?						
Always Frequently Sometimes Never Don't Know						
20. Would you consider adopting (low-cost) land management practices that would increase the diversity and abundance of native bees in and around your farm? 🗌 Yes 🗌 No 🗌 Maybe						
21. Before receiving the booklet, "Wild pollinators of eastern apple orchards and how to conserve them," were you aware that USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service provides cost share programs to create and maintain pollinator habitat on your farm? Yes No						
IF YES, is any part of your apple crop enrolled in this NRCS pollinator habitat program?  Yes No						

22. How *important* are each of the following factors in your decision to adopt new land management practices to protect or enhance wild pollinators? (Check one reply per factor)

					Not	No
		Very	Somewhat	Slightly	at all	opinion
a.	Financial commitment					
b.	Time commitment					
c.	Space requirements					
d.	Availability of cost share programs					
e.	Demonstrated success of management practices					
f.	Environmental stewardship					
g.	Encouragement of friend or neighbor					
h.	Proven effectiveness of wild bees as pollinators					
i.	Clear guidelines to implement management practices					
j.	Other:					

The next questions refer to the accompanying booklet, "Wild pollinators of eastern apple orchards and how to conserve them". Please answer them only after you have had a chance to review the booklet.

23.	Have you read the accompanying booklet?	Yes	No No
-----	---	-----	-------

#### IF NO, then your survey is complete.

24. After reading the booklet, do you **agree** with the following statements? (Check one reply per statement) Agroo Neutral Disagree oninion

	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	opinion
a.	I learned something new about wild bees and their conservation.			
b.	I have a better sense of the kinds of wild bees in my orchard			
C.	I have greater appreciation for the contribution of wild bees to fruit pollination			
d.	The toxicity table makes it easier for me to evaluate my pesticide options based on their effects on bees			
e.	I have new ideas of how to protect wild pollinators on my farm $\Box$			

No

25. After reading the booklet, do you <u>agree</u> with the following statements? (Check one reply per statement)

a.	I plan to change the way I manage pests in my orchard to protect wild pollinators (e.g., timing of sprays)	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	No opinion
b.	I plan to protect or provide nesting and foraging resources for wild pollinators				
C.	I plan to seek additional information about wild pollinators and their conservation				