



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

2015 Programs for Pollinator Habitat in Mississippi

- ❖ Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
- ❖ Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)
- ❖ Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
- ❖ Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA)



Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Funding Source: Farm Bill

Designed for: Agricultural producers with resource problems



Program Goal: Solve resource concerns with conservation practices

Financial Assistance: Available—based on payment schedule rate



Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

- Resource Concerns:** Fish and Wildlife Habitat:
- ❖ Inadequate Food
 - ❖ Inadequate Cover/Shelter
 - ❖ Plant Community, Habitat Fragmentation

Conservation practices to establish pollinator habitat:

- **Conservation Cover (327)**
- **Field Border (386)**
- **Hedgerow Planting (422)**



Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

Funding Source: Farm Services Agency (FSA)

Designed for: Landowners who farm highly-erodible cropland or sensitive riparian areas

Program Goal: Take sensitive areas out of agricultural production for 10yr

Financial Assistance: Available—possible sign-up incentive payment + annual payment



Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

Establish Pollinator Habitat: Seed a mix of 9+ species of pollinator-friendly flowering plants: wildflowers, legumes, and/or shrubs

Conservation practice to establish pollinator habitat:

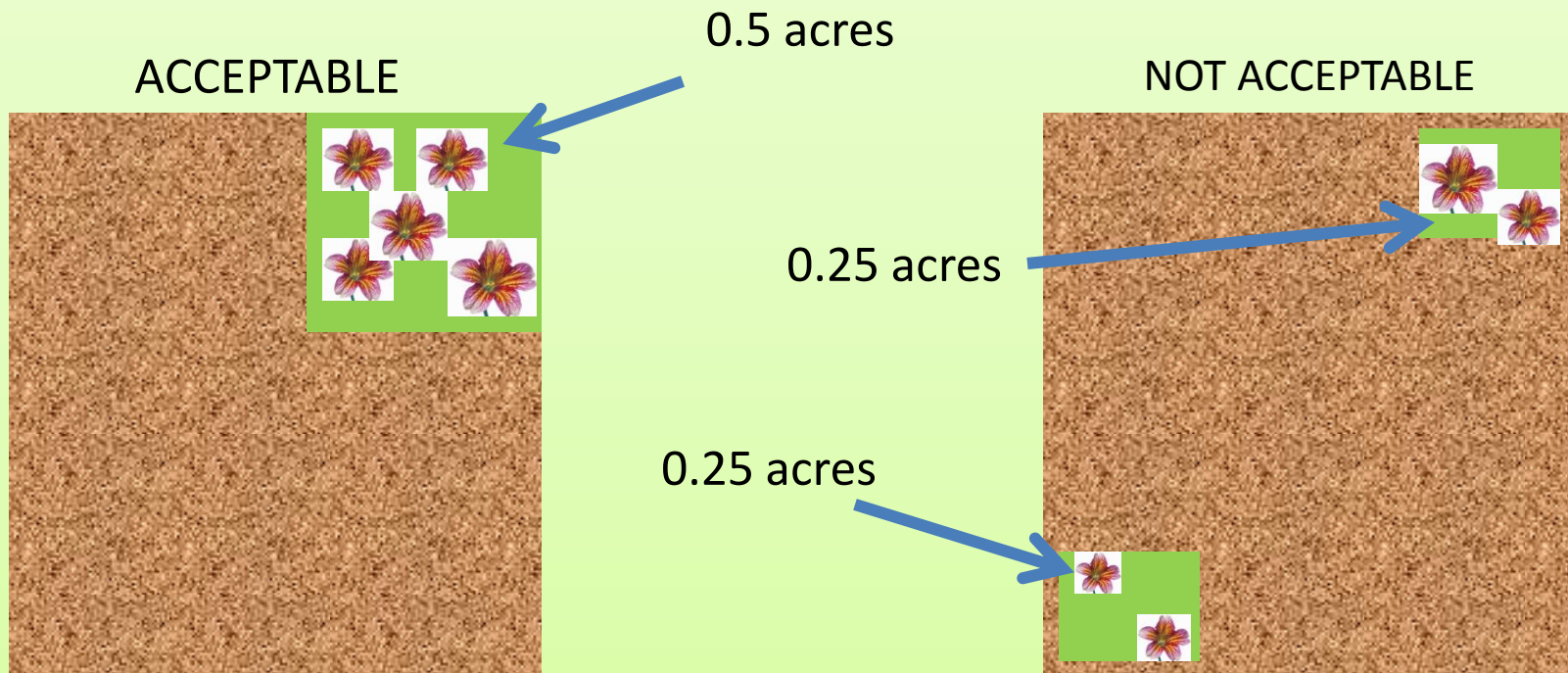
CP42, Pollinator Habitat



Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

CP42 Practice Requirements:

- ❖ At least $\frac{1}{2}$ contiguous acre must be planted, with 1 acre total as a minimum
- ❖ Blocks > Strips (at least 20ft wide)



Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

CP42 Practice Requirements:

At least 3 species bloom in each season

Spring



Summer



Fall



Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

Species lists: Shrubs are optional, but are great to fill in the gaps for pollinators that need spring flowers (such as Monarch butterflies migrating to Canada)

Species	Spacing***	Approximate Plants/Acre
American Beautyberry	6' x 6'	1200
Native Blueberries (<i>Vaccinium</i> spp., ex.: highbush blueberry)	6' x 6'	1200
Chokeberry (black and red)	8' x 8'	700
Crabapple	10' x 10'	450
Deerberry	6' x 6'	1200
Native Dogwoods (<i>Cornus</i> spp., ex.: Silky Dogwood)	8' x 8'	700
Elderberry	8' x 8'	700
Hawthorn spp.	6' x 6'	1200
Native Hollies (<i>Ilex</i> spp., ex.: Deciduous Holly)	8' x 8'	700
Huckleberry	6' x 6'	1200
Pawpaw	8' x 8'	700
Sassafras	10' x 10'	450
Serviceberry	8' x 8'	700
Sumac	8' x 8'	700
Viburnum spp.	6' x 6'	1200
Native Plums (<i>Prunus</i> spp., ex.: Chickasaw)	8' x 8'	700

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

Species list: flowers (from MS-CRP-PLT 15 Job Sheet)

Recommended Pollinator Mix - Moist to Dry Sites

<u>Species</u>	<u>Seeding Rate</u> <u>Per Acre</u>	<u>Bloom Period</u>	<u>Planting Dates</u>
Grasses:			
Little bluestem, <i>Schizachyrium scoparius</i>	1.5 lbs. PLS	mid summer, early fall	April – May
Big bluestem, <i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	0.5 lb. PLS	mid summer, early fall	
Indiangrass, <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	0.5 lb. PLS	mid summer, early fall	
Forbs and Legumes:			
Smooth beardtongue, <i>Penstemon laevigatus</i>	4 oz	spring, mid summer	spring
Lanceleaf coreopsis, <i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	5 oz.	spring, mid summer	fall/spring
Golden tickseed, <i>Coreopsis tinctoria</i>	5 oz.	spring, mid summer	fall/spring
Black-eyed susan, <i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	6 oz.	late spring, summer, fall	fall/spring
Roundhead lespedeza, <i>Lespedeza capitata</i>	4 oz.	mid summer, early fall	spring
Native sunflowers, <i>Helianthus spp.</i>	8 oz.	mid summer, fall	spring
Partridge pea, <i>Chamaecrista fasciculata</i>	5 oz.	summer, fall	spring
Giant ironweed, <i>Vernonia gigantea</i>	4 oz.	summer, fall	fall/spring
Rough goldenrod, <i>Solidago rugosa</i>	4 oz.	late summer, fall	fall/spring

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

Species list: other suggestions for flowers

Blooming time

	Spring	Summer	Fall
Flowers	Eastern Bluestar	Prairie clovers	Blue Mist Flower
	Eastern Columbine	Coralbean	Joe-Pye Weed
	Atlantic Camas	Milkweed	Sunflowers (Native)
	Penstemon	Coneflowers	Cardinal Flower
	Blackberries	Wild indigo	Blue Lobelia
	Spiderwort	Rose-mallow	Goldenrods
	Violets	Bergamot	Ironweeds
		Beebalm	Gayfeather
		Black-eyed Susan	Blazing Star
		Mountain Mint	
		Ticktrefoil	
		Compass Plant	
Legume	Goat's Rue	Illinois Bundle Flower	Partridge Pea
	Red Bud		
	False Indigo		

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

CP42, How to Establish a Pollinator Planting

- ❖ Control weeds
- ❖ Prepare a firm seedbed
- ❖ Drill:
 - Conventional or no-till drill -(7 inch row spacing)
 - Plant no deeper than $\frac{1}{4}$ "
- ❖ Broadcast
 - increase seeding rate
 - use cultipacker after seeding



Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

CP42 Practice Requirements:

- ❖ Mid-Contract Management Activity (year 3):
enhance flowering plant diversity, limit woody encroachment,
expose bare soil for nesting sites

Prescribed burning



Light disking



Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

Funding Source: Farm Bill

Designed for: Landowners with farm & tract numbers who have few or no resource problems



Program Goal: Encourage superior land managers to further enhance their level of conservation

Financial Assistance: Available—installation and annual payments



Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

Enhancement Activities: Establish pollinator and/or beneficial insect habitat in field borders, riparian areas, buffers, etc.



Conservation practice to establish pollinator habitat:

Plant Enhancement Activity – PLT15 – Establish pollinator and/or beneficial insect habitat



Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA)

Free technical assistance in developing a conservation plan to benefit pollinators



Designed for: All landowners

Program Goal: Help landowners use conservation planning to reach their goals

Financial Assistance: None



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