

Signup Period

Offers for enrollment into CP42 may be made at any FSA county office in which the land is located. Offers are automatically accepted provided the land and applicant meet certain eligibility requirements. CP42 offers are not subject to competitive bidding.

Payments

CP42 allows landowners and farm operators to establish plots of wildflowers and legumes vital for the longevity of pollinator species.

The following payments are authorized for CP42:

- A generous Signing Incentive Payment
- 50% cost share assistance for practice establishment. Cost share assistance is available for Brush Piles, Edge Feathering, and Downed Tree Structures to create pollinator nesting habitat. Cost share assistance is also available for Habitat Boundary Markers.
- Annual rental payments calculated using soil rental rates, which are similar to cash rent rates.



Information & Assistance

For more information on CP42, please visit your local FSA office.

In addition to Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) personnel, wildlife biologists from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Pheasants Forever, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are available to provide technical assistance to interested landowners and farm operators.



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Farm Service Agency

CP42 Pollinator Habitat

Establishing and Supporting
Diverse Pollinator-Friendly Habitat



Pollinator Habitat

More than 30 percent of food crops depend on insect pollination. Unfortunately, native pollinators and managed colonies of European honey bees have experienced widespread declines. The Farm Service Agency (FSA) collaborated with pollinator experts and other conservation partners to develop a new practice, CP42-Pollinator Habitat, to help enhance and restore habitat for ecologically and economically significant pollinator species.

Conservation Practice

The CP42-Pollinator Habitat practice is comprised of a diverse mix of at least 9 species of pollinator friendly wildflowers (such as Black-Eyed Susan and Purple Coneflower), legumes (such as Crimson Clover), or shrubs (optional). The mix shall provide at least 3 species in each of the following bloom periods: April-June 15, June 15-July, and August-October. Grass is not required to be seeded, however, if grass is included in the mix, it must be native to Ohio (such as Little Blue Stem).

The pollinator habitat practice may be established on the acreage of an entire field, or planted in blocks or strips within a field. The strips or blocks may allow for the practice to be incorporated into organic or non-organic farming operations if the land meets certain eligibility criteria. CP42 may also be incorporated into the landscape of vineyards and orchards.

Woody Habitat Creation

Some pollinators use deadwood to nest in or escape extreme weather. Woody habitat creation for pollinator nesting habitat is an optional component eligible for cost share where deemed appropriate by NRCS. Optional components include:

- Brush Piles: creating a loose mound of branches on CP42 acres.
- Edge Feathering: cutting limbs or trees along a tree line or woodland edge so that woody material falls onto CP42 acres.
- Downed Tree Structures: cutting and then dragging a tree onto CP42 acres.

Practice Advantages

Advantages of enrolling into Continuous CRP Practice CP42-Pollinator Habitat:

- Provides beneficial habitat for pollinators and many other wildlife species;
- Whole fields may be enrolled;
- Opportunity to enhance the habitat with Brush Piles, Edge Feathering, and Downed Tree Structures;
- Habitat Boundary Markers may be utilized with cost share provided;
- Aesthetics - colorful wildflowers; and
- Pollinator strips may be beneficial for organic and non-organic farm systems as well as vineyards and orchards.

Eligibility

The CP42 practice will be offered through continuous signup. To be eligible for CP42:

- The land must be cropland and meet cropping history requirements as specified in the Code of Federal Regulations.
- Land currently enrolled in CRP may be re-offered for enrollment into CP42 if the land enrolled in CRP is in the last year of the CRP-1 contract.
- Whole fields may be enrolled. If not planted in whole fields, block plantings are preferred over strips. If planted in strips, each strip must be a minimum of 20 feet wide.
- The minimum size requirement of CP42 is 0.5 acres.
- Contracts for CP42 practices must have a duration of 10 years.

