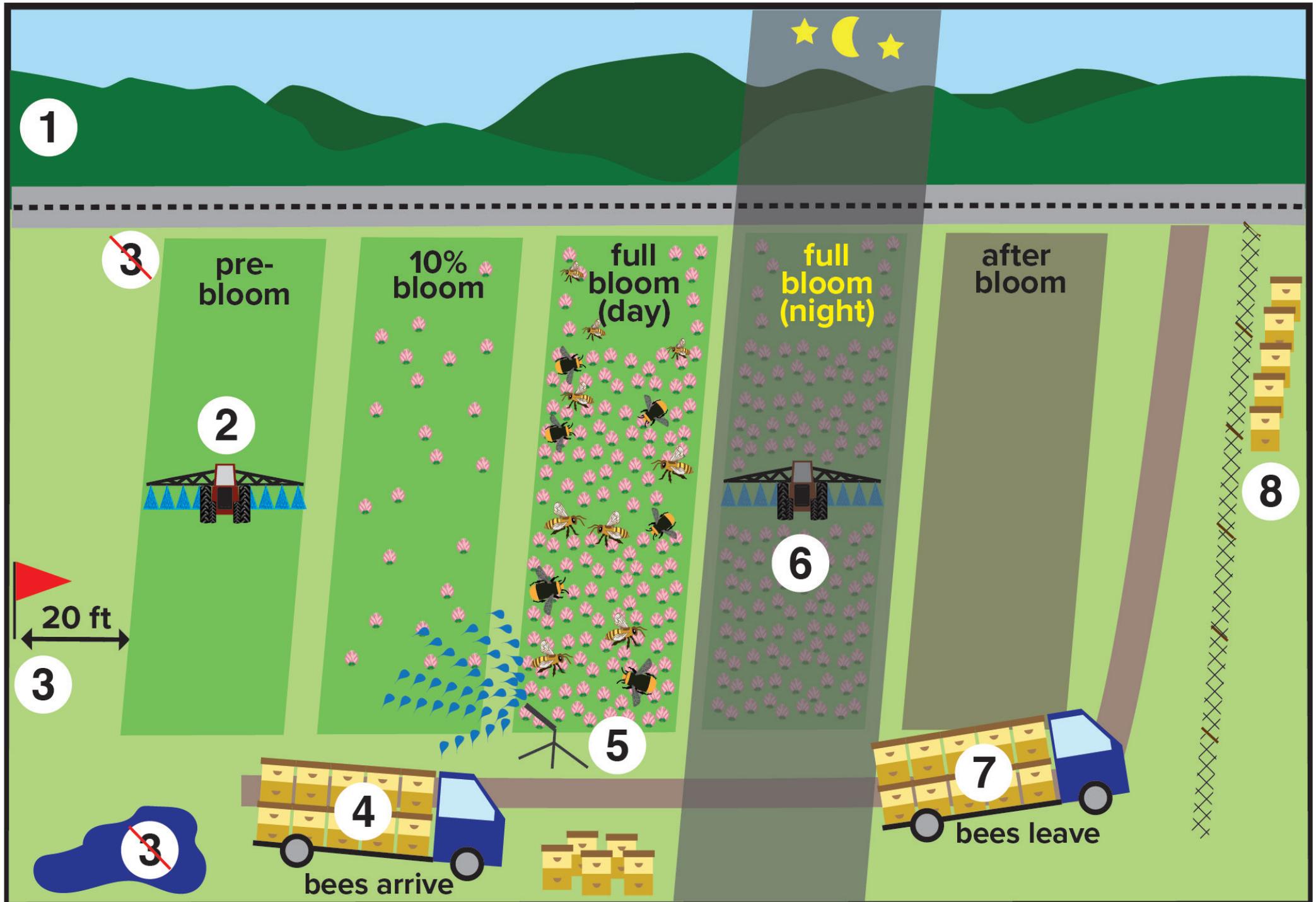




BEE PROTECTION PROTOCOL CLOVER SEED





CLOVER SEED BEE PROTECTION PROTOCOL

There has traditionally been a strong relationship between members of the **Oregon Clover Commission (OCC)** and the **Oregon State Beekeepers Association (OSBA)**. Consequently, in 2020 the OCC met with a working group of the OSBA to develop a Bee Protection Protocol.

Key elements of this protocol outlined on the graphic on front of the card are:

- 1. Call beekeeper 10 days before** plants bloom and indicate approximate delivery date and any pest control you plan before bloom.
- 2. Apply pest control products immediately before bloom** as a way to avoid spraying pesticides when bees are foraging in the crop. Consult **How to Reduce Bee Poisoning from Pesticides (PNW-591)** to determine residual times for pesticides and when it will be safe to move bees into the field. A phone app version of the guide is available on **iTunes** under the name **'how to reduce bee poisoning'** and in the **Google Play Store** under the name **'bee safety'**.
- 3. Flag locations for honey bee placements.** Avoid locations close to a busy highway or where irrigation water pools. Maintain at least a 20 foot buffer from the edge of the field and turn nozzles off as the sprayer approaches hives. **Colonies should meet minimum pollination strength** requirements outlined in **Evaluating Honey Bee Colonies for Pollination (PNW-623)**. **Ensure the beekeeper has access** to the colonies during the entire time the colonies are in pollination.
- 4. Bees should arrive at approximately 10% bloom.**
- 5. Ensure irrigation equipment is not in the path of bee colonies.** Collisions between irrigation equipment and colonies can result in considerable damage.
- 6. Monitor** for pest and disease pressure. **If a treatment is required at full bloom contact the beekeeper to discuss whether they want to move their bees out.** Restrict insecticide and fungicide sprays to early evening (9pm-midnight). Sivanto Prime is the least toxic product for aphid control. Products registered for clover seed weevil are **both** toxic and have residual times greater than 8 hours.
- 7. Bees should be moved** from fields before the application of desiccant.
- 8. Uninvited colonies** might be placed on or close to your fields. If uninvited colonies are found on your land, contact Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA). All colonies in the state are required to be registered with ODA.

Consult the full Bee Protection Protocol for more information.

Have questions?

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