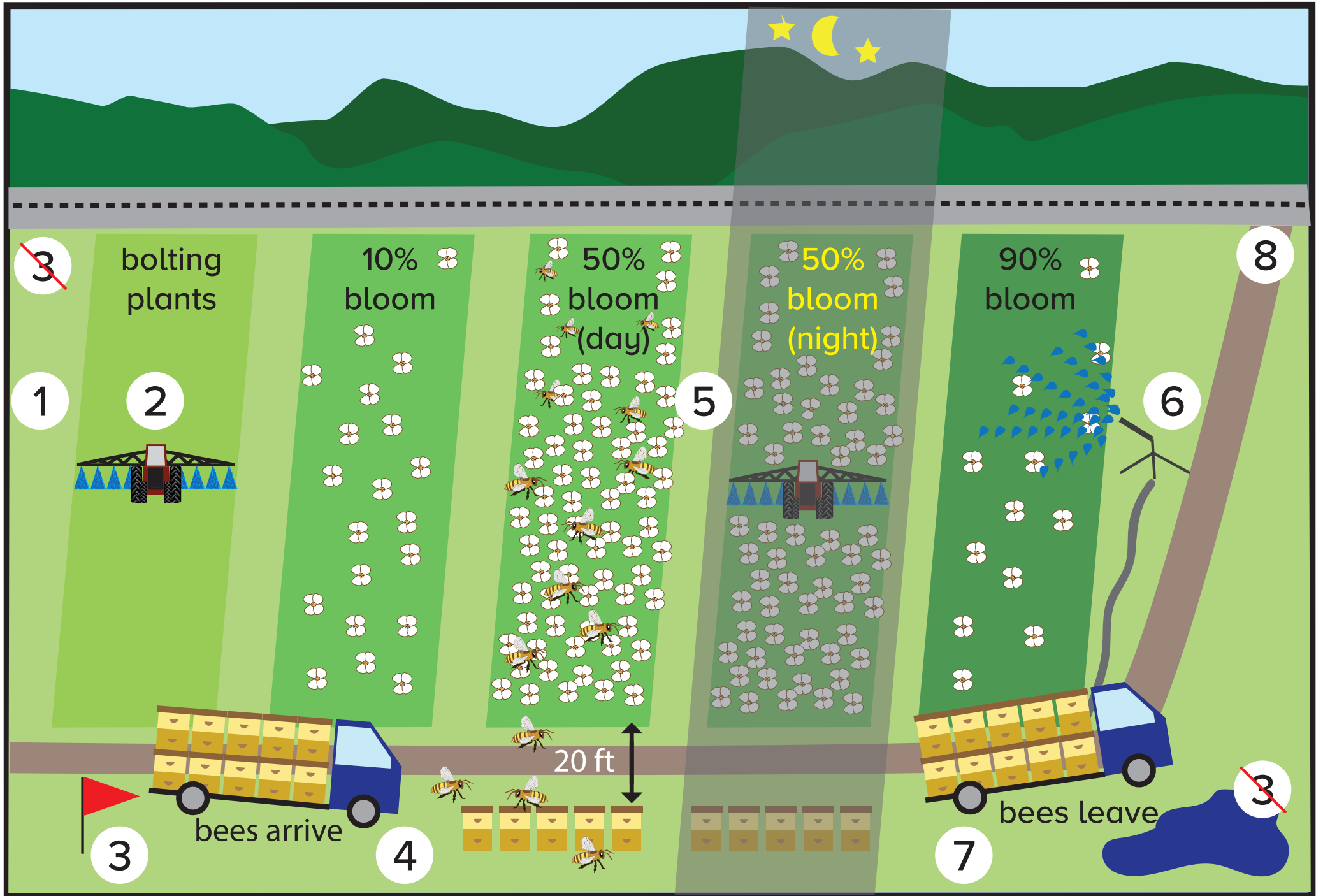




BEE PROTECTION PROTOCOL WESTERN OREGON SPECIALTY SEED





Specialty Seed Growers of Western Oregon



Oregon State University
Extension Service



Oregon
Department
of Agriculture

SSGWO BEE PROTECTION PROTOCOL

There has traditionally been a strong relationship between member of the **Specialty Seed Growers of Western Oregon (SSGWO)** and the **Oregon State Beekeepers Association (OSBA)**. Consequently, in 2017 the SSGWO met with a working group of the OSBA to develop the state's first 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 as plants bolt** 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 nozzels off as the sprayer approaches hives. **Colonies should meet minimum pollination strength** requirements outlined in **Evaluating Honey Bee Colonies for Pollination (PNW-623)**.
- 4. Bees should arrive at approximately 10% bloom.** If bees arrive earlier, they may find other sources of food and not focus on the crop.
- 5. 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 dusk. Select the least toxic product or products with less than 8 hour residual times and avoid spraying during the day. At this time, most insecticides registered to specialty seed crops are **both** toxic and have residual times greater than 8 hours.
- 6. Ensure irrigation equipment is not in the path of bee colonies.** Collisions between irrigation equipment and colonies can result in considerable damage.
- 7. Bees should be moved** from fields beginning at **90% bloom**.
- 8. Ensure the beekeeper has access** to the colonies during the entire time the colonies are in pollination.

For more information on the Oregon Bee Project visit: oregonbeeproject.org

For information on:

Specialty seeds - Kristie Buckland (OSU Extension) - (503) 506-0955

Honey bees and pollination - Ramesh Sagili (OSU Extension) - (541) 737-5460

Pesticides and bees - Andony Melathopoulos (OSU Extension) - (541) 737-3464

Pesticide labels and Spanish language - Gilbert Uribe (ODA) - (503) 986-4752