

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

# Work Group on Pollinator Protection

## Work Group Charge

- ❑ Explore initial, science-based risk management approaches including appropriate label restrictions and training;
- ❑ Develop information on State approaches and different authorities
- ❑ Transfer of lesson learned by various stakeholders in order to improve existing management practices [across multiple factors affecting pollinator declines]
- ❑ Continuing international communication; and,
- ❑ Consider other issues the WG wishes to bring to the PPDC's attention

# Work Group on Pollinator Protection

## Meetings

- ❑ Initial meeting of the WG on September 8<sup>th</sup>
  - Discussed ground rules and Work Group charge
  - Discussed ideas and identified major themes
  
- ❑ WG meeting on September 28<sup>th</sup>
  - Subgroups are formed around major themes
  - Discussed subgroups holding their own meetings to further explore their respective themes
  
- ❑ Subgroup meetings during the week of October 3<sup>rd</sup>

# Work Group on Pollinator Protection

## WG Composition

- ❑ 45 WG members, representation from:
  - Grower groups; agro. industry; beekeepers; applicators; State Lead Agencies; academia; cooperative extension; non-governmental groups; and USDA
- ❑ WG members formed into subgroups around themes
  - 28 members in management strategies
  - 5 in communication
  - 5 in enforcement
  - 7 in data and databases
- ❑ In WG meeting on Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>, subgroups reported out and the WG slightly redefined its focus areas.

# Work Group on Pollinator Protection

## Theme 1: Best Management Practices

- ❑ WG to explore information that currently exists or what works now for growers and beekeepers
  
- ❑ WG to explore voluntary registries
  - What models are out there, what works, what doesn't, an opportunity for communication and information exchange.
  
- ❑ WG to explore case-studies where stakeholders worked together for successful protection of pollinators and crops – what worked in these cases.

# Work Group on Pollinator Protection

## Theme 2: Training and Education

- ❑ WG will look into what training information currently exists
  - Current effort underway by The North American Pollinator Protection Campaign
  
- ❑ WG to explore ways for parties to communicate and get information between stakeholders
  - Through co-operative extension, information bulletins, websites, journals, farmer to farmer
  
- ❑ Explore what information or training could be made available amongst stakeholders that will lead to win-win situations
  - Toxicity information on products - - information that may be beyond the label
  - Information on inerts, etc.

# Work Group on Pollinator Protection

## Theme 3: Enforcement

- ❑ Understanding the difference between an incident and an investigation
- ❑ Explore whether there is, or can be a standard processes
  - How to report
  - What to report
- ❑ Explore information sharing between the State and EPA

# Work Group on Pollinator Protection

## Theme 4: Labeling

### Short-term

- ❑ WG to explore what exists today and how EPA currently determines what goes on the label
- ❑ Commercial agricultural products vs. Home owner products
  - What information is available on each type of product
  - Is the label information clear and easy to read
- ❑ WG to explore whether label language to protect bees can be made simpler/clearer for both commercial products and homeowner products

### Long-term

- ❑ Risk-assessment based - - after data requirements and a risk assessment process is defined