



Contra Costa County

Applicator Guide for Notification to Beekeepers:

California law, 3 CCR section 6654, requires each person intending to apply any pesticide labeled toxic to bees to a blossoming plant to inquire of any apiaries located within a mile of the application site. If the beekeeper has requested notice of such application, the applicator shall provide the notice at least 48 hours in advance of the application. To view beekeeper contact information*, the person performing pest control shall perform a Bee Check on the [BeeWhere Database](#) and deliver the notification by the method indicated by the beekeeper at his or her expense. Notification must include: **the time and place of the application, the method of application, the crop and acreage to be treated, the identity and dosage rate of the pesticide, and the applicator's contact information.**

To assist with providing notification to beekeepers, please follow the steps below:

1. Prior to applying a pesticide to a blossoming plant, check the “**Environmental Hazards**” section of the label to determine whether the pesticide is registered as “**toxic to bees**”. (*FAC 12973*)
2. Determine whether there are application restrictions that prohibit the application to the flowering plant. (*FAC 12973*) [If no toxicity for bees is stated on the label, please skip to #7 below.]
3. If the application is not prohibited by the label and toxicity to bees is determined, inquire of any registered colonies within a mile of the application site by visiting the [BeeWhere notification](#) (*3CCR 6654a*)
4. Login using your county issued CalAgPermits credentials or contact our office to obtain login information.
5. Obtain contact information for the beekeeper that has requested for notification by performing a **Bee Check Report**. (*3CCR 6654a*)
6. Contact the beekeeper **48 hours** prior to the application by using the preferred method the beekeeper has selected on BeeWhere. (*3CCR 6654b*)
7. Before beginning the pesticide application, determine whether bees are actively visiting blossoming plants or weeds. Use Best Management Practices to reduce injury to bee health and colony strength. Consider evening or night time applications or when weather is below 55 degrees Fahrenheit when bees are inactive. (*3CCR 6650b*)
8. Always turn off spray equipment near beehives. Do not drift. Do not spray honey bees while they are in flight and actively foraging. (*3CCR 6614*)

Please contact our office if you cannot access BeeWhere or would like county staff to run a Bee Check on your behalf. Our staff can help you complete the Bee Check by calling our office (925-608-6600) during normal business hours Mon-Fri, 8-5pm, excluding holidays. Bee Check Reports are monitored and recorded on BeeWhere for auditing purposes. For additional information on pesticide toxicity to bees, please visit the [UC IPM Bee Precaution website](#).

*Please Note: Apiary physical locations are not provided when performing a Bee Check. Apiary locations are privileged and held confidential as required by FAC 29041. A valid Site ID issued on an Operator Identification Number or Restricted Materials Permit is required prior to performing a Bee Check.