POLLINATOR **SAFETY**

DO'S

- Always follow the label instructions and pay special attention to pollinator warnings or precautions.
- Interrogate Agri-Intel (www.agri-intel.com) for pesticides that are registered for the purposes required; the labels are, however, the final port of call for safety and use instructions.
- Apply directly to the target plant and ensure minimal spray drift.
- Apply early evening when bees have returned to their hives.
- Communicate with all beekeepers in the area and inform them of planned spray programmes.
- Scout the area for pollinators before applying.
- Be aware of spray residues and the amount of time they may still be toxic to bees.
- Remember that systemic insecticides have long periods of residual activity.
- Ensure that flowering plants or weeds that are attractive to bees are not in the area of application.
- Familiarise yourself with the product. Insecticides are the most hazardous to bees while fungicides and plant growth regulators have less impact.
- Ensure that equipment has been correctly calibrated for the application.
- Ensure to practice integrated pest management and only apply pesticides when absolutely necessary.

DON'TS

- Don't apply directly onto flowers. If no other option exists but to apply pesticides in bloom, do not apply directly onto the flowers.
- Don't apply while pollinators are active in the area that needs to be treated.
- Don't apply at night because inversion can prevent successful deposition of pesticides onto the target and cause serious drift.
- Don't apply any product that is not registered for the specific crop or application method.
- Don't apply during windy conditions, especially if foliar application is the only available option.
- Don't mix pesticides with substances that could be a lure for pollinators.
- Don't apply pesticides to standing water bodies.

RECOMMENDATION

Plant bee attractive indigenous flora like aloes and fynbos to lure bees away from crop areas where they may be at risk.

CropLife AFRICA MIDDLE EAST

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