



Revised EU Pollinators Initiative

A new deal for pollinators

Actions under Agriculture

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Restore pollinator habitats in agricultural landscapes

1. Aim to increase support for pollinator-friendly farming under the CAP and other instruments by 2030. Explore how best to address pollinator conservation and restoration in the future reform.
2. Organization of best practices and coordination activities to facilitate the design and uptake of instruments that benefit pollinators such as results-based payments and collective measures, mainly through the CAP Network.
3. Enhance the capacity of farm advisory services for pollinators and communication activities.
4. Development of pollinator indicator and eventually integrate it into the CAP's performance monitoring and evaluation framework.



Action 1: Increase support for pollinator-friendly farming practices

Commission report published on 23 November on the **Summary of CAP Strategic Plans for 2023-2027** recognizes that wild pollinator conservation features more strongly in the CAP Plans than in the previous period.

- Examples of area-based interventions under both Pillars beneficial for pollinators [beyond the enhanced conditionality]:
 - **Organic farming** (included in all plans)
 - **Maintenance and development of landscape features:** planting of trees and hedges (included in 16 plans), land lying fallow (included in 17 plans), buffer strips covered with grass, flowers, and melliferous crops (included in 16 plans).
 - **Reduction in the use and risk of pesticides:** banning chemical pest control (included in 15 plans) or banning or limiting the use of pesticides (included in 17 plans). Rural development commitments on the use of precision technologies and IPM practices.

Action 1: Increase support for pollinator-friendly farming practices

- Certain area-based interventions mention explicitly pollinators:
 - ES: “adapted management for pollinators” in IT and “nectar plants” in LV.
 - AECC: “creation of biodiversity-relevant coverage, in particular hexagon pollinators” and “improving the pollinator potential of bees” in FR, “management of beekeeping units for the purpose of pollination” in LV, “promotion of natural pollination” in BG.
- Whole-farm systems approach: agroforestry and agro-ecology (estimated 633 000 hectares)
- Natura 2000 payments:
 - Compensate restrictions which relate to – among others- mowing (date of mowing, maintaining unmown areas), fertilization (including ban of fertilization in certain cases), and regulated use (or ban) of plant protection products (included in 13 plans).



Example of AECCS in Austria



Environmental and Biodiversity-Promoting Management” and “Organic Farming

- support for creating biodiversity/ flowering areas covering 7% of their arable or grassland areas.
- possible to re-seed biodiversity areas with very species-rich regional seed mixtures (minimum 30 species from 7 plant families) and thus create additional particularly diverse food sources for pollinators.

Species rich grassland

- management of species-rich grassland, thus promoting flower meadows as a food source for pollinator insects.
- farmers decide which measures they implement on their land, so that at least 5 species-rich fat meadows are found in the area (e.g. meadow margerite, meadow bell flower or meadow-witwen flower).

Ecologically valuable and species-rich agricultural areas

- farmers decide which conservation measures they want to implement in order to achieve the agreed conservation objectives, such as “creating a habitat for a species-rich insect community”.
- flexibility (e.g. taking into account weather conditions or fertilization) and encourages a better understanding of the links between land management and the occurrence of animal and plant species.

Action 2: uptake of results-based payments and collective measures

- Results-based payments: offer flexibility and incentives to farmers to implement environmentally friendly practices.
 - DE (biodiversity), CY (biodiversity), IE , NL, AT and SI and others
- Collective implementation of AECC: incentivize collaboration between farmers.
 - NL (Agricultural Nature and Landscape Management) and at lower-scale by DE (Cooperative Biodiversity Measures in 3 Länders) and IE (Agri-Environment Climate Measure- cooperation option).
- Collective approaches of Cooperation intervention:
 - NL (Co-operation of peat meadows and Natura 2000), IE (AECC Cooperation), SI (Testing of nature protection measures in protected areas).

Actions 1, 2 and 3

- A first workshop on **pollinator conservation in agriculture** will be organized in the framework of the European Innovation Partnership (EIP) in June 2024. Participation is expected by researchers, managing authorities, advisors, farmers and members of operational groups.

Action 4

- In the context of the newly agreed NRL, a new farmland pollinator indicator will be developed, and will be eventually integrated in the future PMEAF.

Thank you!