



**CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY**  
**E512136Z1**

**CONSERVATION**  
**STEWARDSHIP**  
**PROGRAM**

Establish pollinator and/or beneficial insect habitat

**Conservation Practice 512: Forage and Biomass Planting**

**APPLICABLE LAND USE: Pasture**

**RESOURCE CONCERN ADDRESSED: Fish & Wildlife Inadequate Habitat**

**PRACTICE LIFE SPAN: 5 years**

**Enhancement Description**

Establishing adapted and/or compatible species, varieties, or cultivars of herbaceous species that can provide nectar for pollinators and forage and other habitat values for wildlife and livestock, particularly at times when targeted nectar, forage supply and quality, cover, and shelter are not available in other pastures.

**Criteria**

- Select native, perennial, grass/forb/legume plant species and their cultivars based on climatic conditions, soil condition, landscape position and resistance to disease and insects, that meet the nectar needs of specified, pollinating insects at times when they will be present and foraging. These plants need to also provide forage or other habitat values for wildlife and livestock.
- Recommendations for planting rates, methods, depths, and dates from land grant universities (LGU), plant materials program, extension agencies, or agency field trials will be followed.
- Seeding medium that does not restrict plant emergence will be provided, and planting will take place when soil moisture is adequate for germination and establishment.
- Federal, state, or local noxious species will not be planted.



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- Plant nutrients and/or soil amendments for establishment purposes will be applied according to a current soil test. Legume seed will be pre-inoculated or inoculated with the proper viable strain of Rhizobia immediately before planting.
- Plants will be selected that help meet nectar requirements for specified pollinators during times that normal farm/ranch forage production is inadequate. Plant selection will help to increase scores on the state's approved NRCS habitat evaluation procedure for pollinators.

### **Documentation Requirements**

- NRCS State approved Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide (WHEG) as completed and certified by an NRCS or partner wildlife biologist when applicable. Specific pollinator species targeted will be notated on the WHEG, and total score after implementation will equal 0.75 or greater.
- Documentation of seed (Pure Live Seed) and any fertilizer or amendments purchased.
- Completed forage balance sheet for farm/ranch and grazing records.