

## Walmart Canada Pollinator Health Position

In 2020, Walmart committed to becoming a regenerative company. As part of this commitment, Walmart globally and the Walmart Foundation aim to help protect, manage, or restore at least 50 million acres of land and one million square miles of ocean by 2030.

According to the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), pollination is important for maintaining the populations of many plants and is critical in agricultural systems. About 75 percent of the world's major crops are dependent on pollinators<sup>i</sup>, and they contribute to the subsistence agricultural production that feeds many millions of people<sup>ii</sup>. Therefore, a substantial decline in pollinator (e.g., bees, beetles, birds, butterflies, bats, moths, wasps) populations may threaten food production for both local consumption and global food markets. Research by IPBES confirms that wild pollinators have declined in abundance and diversity in regions including North America because of factors such as land-use change, intensive agricultural management and pesticide use, environmental pollution, invasive alien species, pathogens and climate change.

Also, according to IPBES, pollinator exposure to pesticides can be reduced by minimizing the use of pesticides, incorporating alternative forms of pest control, and adopting a range of specific application practices. Actions to reduce pesticide use include promoting Integrated Pest Management (IPM); a sustainable, science-based, decision-making process that combines biological, cultural, physical, and chemical tools to identify, manage and reduce risk from pests and pest management tools and strategies in a way that minimizes overall economic, health and environmental risks, as defined by the IPM Institute of North America.

As part of our commitment to protect and restore natural resources involved in production of the products we sell, Walmart Canada is taking these initial steps to promote pollinator health:

1. **Walmart Canada will source 100% of the fresh produce and floral we sell in our in-store Produce department from suppliers that adopt integrated pest management practices, as verified by a third-party, by 2025.** We also encourage fresh produce suppliers to report their pesticide application and biodiversity management annually, through Walmart's annual sustainability surveys.

Third-party certifications that verify IPM adoption or that are protective of pollinator health and include robust IPM criteria include:

- o [Bee Better Certified](#)
- o [Canada Certified Organic](#) as well as international organic labels that meet the Canada Organic Regime equivalency arrangements
- o [Equitable Food Initiative \(EFI\)](#)
- o [Fairtrade International – Hired Labor](#)
- o [Fair Trade USA](#) Year 6 and beyond, medium, and large farms

- [Global G.A.P.](#) Integrated Farm Assurance Fruit and Vegetable Versions 5.3-GFS and above. Flowers and Ornamental Version 5.2 and above.
- [LEAF Marque](#)
- [Rainforest Alliance](#)
- [Sustainable Food Group Sustainability Standard](#)
- [Sustainably Grown \(SCS Global Services\)](#)
- [USDA Certified Organic](#) that meet the terms of the US Canada Organic equivalency arrangement

Additional third-party certifications may be added to the above list, from time to time, as they are able to demonstrate improvements to their IPM criteria.

As part of this initiative, **we will also encourage fresh produce suppliers to phase out use of chlorpyrifos and nitroguanidine neonicotinoids** (imidacloprid, thiamethoxam, clothianidin, dinotefuran) where applicable unless mandated otherwise by law, and to avoid replacing them with other products with a level I [bee precaution rating](#).

2. **To help improve and expand pollinator habitats, Walmart Canada will:**

- a. **Encourage fresh produce suppliers to protect, restore, or establish pollinator habitats by 2025 on at least 3% of land they own, operate, and/or invest in** (e.g., community gardens, pollinator-friendly solar<sup>iii</sup>, sustainable landscapes<sup>iv</sup>). Suppliers are encouraged to report annual progress through Walmart's annual sustainability surveys.
- b. **Encourage live-plant suppliers to label pollinator-friendly plants (plants grown without neonicotinoids, flupyradifurone and sulfoxaflor)** for sale in our retail stores.
- c. **Continue to avoid selling invasive plant species** based on recognized regional lists.
- d. **Help educate customers** about pollinator plants for home gardens. Beginning in the spring of 2021, millions of annual and perennial neonic-free plants for sale in our stores now carry tags to help customers identify plants that attract pollinators. We will explore other initiatives, online and in store, to engage and educate customers.
- e. **Explore opportunities to incorporate pollinator habitat** on Walmart Canada real estate including our Head Office where we plan to enhance flower beds with pollinator friendly plants where possible. On an opportunistic basis, we intend to establish pollinator habitat locations where feasible. We hope to install pollinator gardens onsite at 10 Walmart locations by the end of 2021.

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<sup>i</sup> Klein et al, *Importance of Pollinators in Changing Landscapes for World Crops*, 2006,  
<https://royalsocietypublishing.org/doi/full/10.1098/rspb.2006.3721>

<sup>ii</sup> IPBES, *The Assessment Report on Pollinators, Pollination and Food Production of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services* (IPBES), 2017  
[https://ipbes.net/sites/default/files/downloads/pdf/2017\\_pollination\\_full\\_report\\_book\\_v12\\_pages.pdf](https://ipbes.net/sites/default/files/downloads/pdf/2017_pollination_full_report_book_v12_pages.pdf)

<sup>iv</sup> A place where people steward natural capital alongside sustainable production systems at a scale that encompasses multiple levels of governance, a wide range of uses, and essential natural capital, to enhance long-term human well-being in a changing world. Conservation International, *Sustainable Landscape Approach Implementation guidebook*, 2018 p. 4 [https://www.conservation.org/docs/default-source/publication-pdfs/ci\\_laf-sustainable-landscape-approach-implementation-guidebook.pdf?Status=Master&sfvrsn=b772ba44\\_2](https://www.conservation.org/docs/default-source/publication-pdfs/ci_laf-sustainable-landscape-approach-implementation-guidebook.pdf?Status=Master&sfvrsn=b772ba44_2)