Continuous CRP Sign-up Fact Sheet

March 2023

CP42 Pollinator Habitat

More than 35 percent of crop production in the U.S. depends on pollination by animals. Unfortunately, both native pollinator species and honey bee colonies have experienced widespread and significant population declines. In response to this looming threat to domestic agricultural production, the 2008 Farm Bill mandated that USDA conservation programs be used to help restore and manage pollinator habitat.

By 2012, the Farm Service Agency (FSA), Pheasants Forever and other conservation partners worked together to develop a new practice in the Conservation Reserve Program targeting habitat for ecologically and economically significant pollinator species.

Pollinators are primarily comprised of diverse groups and species of insects with widely varying habitat needs and life cycles. All pollinator insects rely on pollen and nectar from wildflowers during one or more of their developmental stages.

The CP42 Pollinator Habitat practice is comprised of a diverse mix of at least nine species of pollinator friendly wildflowers (such as hoary vervain and butterfly milkweed), legumes (such as showy patridgepea), or native shrubs (such as American plum). However, the more diverse your pollinator habitat is, the better it will be for a host of wildlife species.

A good rule of thumb is that twenty species should be the minimum number of wildflowers included in your planting to provide a variety of flower shapes, plant structures, colors, and blooming periods. Standards specify a minimum of three species in each of the following bloom periods: April to May, June to July, and August to October.

Orange sulphur (Colias eurytheme) on red clover.

Working farms can receive financial assistance to create high diversity pollinator habitat.

INTERESTING FACT

75% ***The percent of all flowering plants in the world that require the use of pollinators to reproduce.***

United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
The USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

Native plants such as hoary vervain and upright coneflower can attract a diversity of beneficial insects.

The larvae of monarch butterflies feed exclusively on milkweed plants (Asclepias spp.).

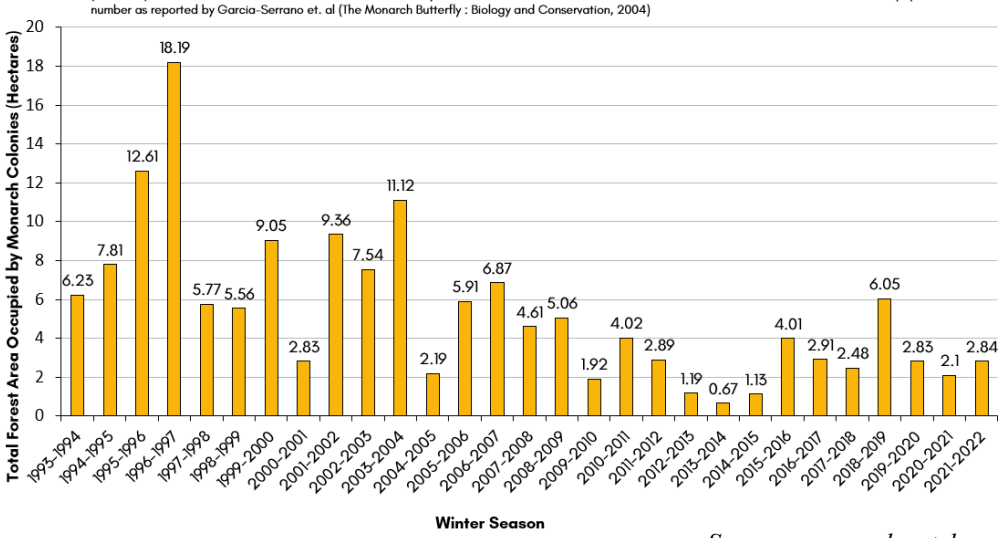
What does a CP42 contract look like?

- Provide beneficial habitat for pollinators and many other wildlife species.
- Provide nesting, egg-laying and nectar and pollen sources for pollinators.
- Acres must be cropland or considered planted to an agricultural commodity during four of six crop years. Years are determined by the current Farm Bill.
- Eligible acres may be signed up on a continuous basis and are not subject to competitive ranking nationwide.
- The minimum size requirement of CP42 is 0.5 acres.
- Annual payment based on the county soil rental rate established for the three predominant soils.
- 10 year contract length
- Standard 50% cost-share on establishment practices.
- Sign-up Incentive Payment (SIP) and Practice Incentive Payments (PIP) may be available.
- No cost-share for management is available, but is still required once in the lifetime of the contract.

MONARCH JOINT VENTURE

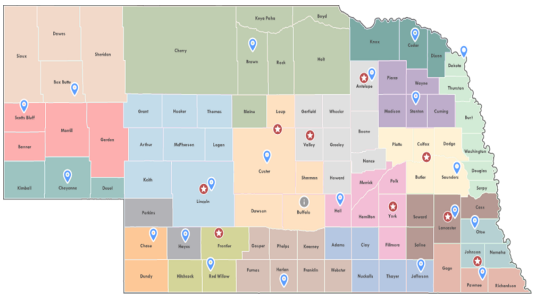
Eastern Monarch Overwintering Population
1993/1994 - 2021/2022

Data from 1994-2005 were collected by personnel of the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve (MBBR) of the National Commission of Protected Natural Areas (CONANP) in Mexico. Data from 2004-2022 were collected by the WWF-Telcel Alliance, in coordination with the Directorate of the MBBR. 2000-01 population number as reported by Garcia-Serrano et. al (The Monarch Butterfly : Biology and Conservation, 2004)



Source: monarchwatch.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION



Through a partnership with Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever, Nebraska Game & Parks Commission and the Natural Resources Conservation Service, wildlife biologists are available to help provide wildlife habitat guidance, technical assistance on the available conservation programs and design seeding mixtures.

For further information visit NebraskaPF.com

PHEASANTS forever The Habitat Organization
QUAIL forever The Habitat Organization
NEBRASKA GAME PARKS
The Nebraska Environmental Trust preserving NATURAL NEBRASKA™ for future generations
USDA NRCS United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service
FSA FARM SERVICE AGENCY