



## Meijer Commitment to Pollinator Health

At Meijer, we are dedicated to be a responsible community partner, promoting the well-being of our environment for future generations. Our commitment to environmental sustainability is not only a sound business practice but also aligns with our core values and mission to enrich the lives of those in the communities we serve.

In 2021, we first formalized a plan to promote pollinator health throughout the company’s supply chain. We recognize the critical role that pollinators, such as honeybees and native bees, play in maintaining a reliable food supply. Pollinators have been affected by the use of certain pesticides used to prevent damage to crops from insects. These pesticides not only kill harmful insects, but also beneficial ones including pollinators. The health of these pollinators is directly linked to food security, and as a food retailer, we have a significant role in mitigating the decline of pollinator health.

### Actions for a Better Future

To further support pollinator health at Meijer, we will take the next steps within our supply chain:

#### 1. Integrated Pest Management (IPM):

- Integrated Pest Management is a sustainable approach to managing pests by combining biological, cultural, physical, and chemical tools in a way that minimizes economic, health, and environmental risks.<sup>a</sup>
- By January 1, 2030, our fresh produce suppliers will adopt IPM programs, documented by the following recognized certifications.
  1. Small Farms<sup>b</sup> are exempt from this requirement to maintain a certified IPM program.

Accepted Nature-based Certifications	
Bee Better	LEAF MARQUE
Biodynamic	GLOBAL G.A.P. ( <i>Integrated Farm Assurance</i> )
Certified Sustainably Grown	Rainforest Alliance
Equitable Food Initiative (IPM/ Pest Management Standards)	Regenerative Organic
Fair Trade International	Sustainable Food Group Sustainability Standard
Fair Trade USA	USDA Organic & international equivalents

- Leveraging a range of certification options provides flexibility to suppliers to adopt the IPM strategy that correlates with their produce products.

#### 2. Support for Small Farms:

- We will review ways to aid Small Farm<sup>a</sup> Fresh Produce suppliers in implementing IPM programs including potential partnerships with IPM education and guidance programs.

**a:** Integrated Pest Management is defined in 7 U.S.C. § 136r

**b:** USDA defines Small Farm as a gross cash farm income of \$250,000, or less.

### 3. **Encouragement and Education:**

- Encourage suppliers of fresh floral and live plants to prioritize IPM strategies.
- Develop ways to confirm and document supplier participation in approved IPM Certifications.
- Collaborate with academic institutions that provide educational opportunities on IPM and least-toxic approaches to pest management.

### 4. **Expansion of Organic Offerings:**

- Expand our USDA Organic fresh produce offerings to provide our customers with additional options for their lifestyles.

### 5. **Removal of use of Hazardous Pesticides from Live Plants**

- We have eliminated the use of pesticides containing neonicotinoids from live plants sold in our stores and garden centers.

## **Customer Education and Engagement**

We will also educate Meijer customers through:

- **In-Store Signage:** Inform customers about Meijer's pollinator policy and our work to carry products from suppliers who use IPM practices.
- **Digital Education:** Use Meijer.com and Meijercommunity.com to educate customers on the importance of pollinator health and the USDA certified organic label.

## **Enhancing Pollinator Habitats**

We will continue to explore opportunities to create pollinator habitats on our properties, including stores, distribution centers, manufacturing facilities, and offices.

## **Program Management**

At Meijer, our Merchandising, Sustainability, and Procurement teams are committed to working closely with our suppliers to achieve this important goal, so you, our customers, receive high quality produce.