

Native Bee Nest Locations in Agricultural Landscapes

Crop-Pollinating Native Bees: There are over 1,600 species of native bees in California, many of which are excellent crop pollinators. 30% are above-ground nesters and 70% nest below ground.

Natural Habitat: Many crop-pollinating bees nest in natural habitat adjacent to farm fields.

Hedgerows: Above-ground nesting bees nest in twigs, branches, and stems of shrubby plants.

Field Margins: Bare ground provides nesting habitat for ground-nesting bees while old rodent burrows provide nest sites for bumble bees. Bees can also nest in dirt roads and on levee banks.

Crop Fields: Some bees are able to nest in drip and furrow-irrigated crop fields. Often these bees are specialists (only forage on one type of crop). They prefer to nest near their host plants (e.g., squash, sunflower).

Nesting Blocks: Create nest sites for above-ground nesting bees by installing a bee nesting block.

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For more information on native bee conservation, please visit:
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