



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20250

NATIONAL POLLINATOR WEEK

June 24–30, 2007

By the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States of America

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS pollinator species such as birds and insects are essential partners of farmers and ranchers in producing much of our food supply; and

WHEREAS pollination plays a vital role in the health of our national forests and grasslands, which provide forage, fish and wildlife, timber, water, mineral resources, and recreational opportunities as well as enhanced economic development opportunities for communities; and

WHEREAS pollinator species provide significant environmental benefits that are necessary for maintaining healthy, biodiverse ecosystems; and

WHEREAS the maintenance of healthy pollinator populations is critical to the continued economic well-being of agricultural producers; and

WHEREAS the United States Department of Agriculture has managed wildlife habitats and public lands such as national forests and grasslands for decades; and

WHEREAS the Department provides producers with conservation assistance to promote wise conservation stewardship, including the protection and maintenance of pollinators and their habitats on working lands and wildlands; and

WHEREAS the Department's participation in the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (<http://www.pollinator.org>), a public-private partnership endeavoring to increase pollinator awareness and promote pollinator-friendly practices, represents an important example of cooperative conservation; and

WHEREAS the Department's natural resource managers, with the support of communities and local, State, and tribal governments, work hard on behalf of the American people to administer ecosystems that provide healthy habitats for pollinator species using sound, progressive land conservation and sustainable multiple-use principles;

NOW, THEREFORE, in recognition of the importance of pollinator species to agriculture and to forest and grassland environments and other ecosystems, I, Mike Johanns, Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture, do hereby proclaim June 24–30, 2007, as National Pollinator Week. I call upon the people of the United States to join me in celebrating the vital significance of pollinators to agriculture and to public lands as well as the Department's conservation assistance to farmers and ranchers and its management of ecosystems providing valuable pollinator habitats throughout the Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 29th day of September 2006, the two-hundred thirty-first year of the Independence of the United States of America.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Johanns".

MIKE JOHANNNS
Secretary