



Delta Farmland & Wildlife Trust
OFFICE USE ONLY
Program Year: **2023**
Agreement #: _____

DFWT Field Unit(s)

Regional Maps

**DELTA FARMLAND & WILDLIFE TRUST
BLUEBERRY REST PROGRAM AGREEMENT**

DATE _____

BETWEEN THE COOPERATOR: _____

AND

THE DELTA FARMLAND AND WILDLIFE TRUST, a non-profit, community based, charitable society, whose mission is to promote the preservation of farmland and associated wildlife habitat in the Fraser River delta through sustainable farming and land stewardship (referred to hereafter as "DFWT").

WHEREAS: The Cooperator and DFWT have agreed to cost share the establishment of a Pollinator Set-Aside where blueberry bushes have been removed, for the purposes of soil conservation in Metro Vancouver and Abbotsford, in the Province of British Columbia.

THE COOPERATOR WILL:

- 1) establish a field, described in Schedule A, as a Pollinator Set-aside for the benefit of both soil and pollinator populations as prescribed by DFWT. The Set-aside must be planted by **June 30, 2023** if this is the first year of the agreement.
- 2) maintain and manage the field, described in Schedule A, as a Pollinator Set-aside from **April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024**.
- 3) not mow or harvest a set-aside until after **July 15th** of any year covered by this agreement and limit harvest to one cut per year.
- 4) ensure that top-kill, mowing, discing or plough down of the Pollinator Set-aside will not occur before **March 31, 2024**.
- 5) perform best management practices, as described in Schedule A and at the cooperators expense, which are associated with the maintenance of a field as a Pollinator Set-aside.
- 6) discuss management practices with DFWT and concede to DFWT recommendations prior to undertaking any management activities.
- 7) allow DFWT to monitor the Pollinator Set-aside for wildlife use, vegetation structure or soil quality.
- 8) not receive reimbursement or an exchange for rent payment for the Pollinator Set-aside described in Schedule A, from any other program or agreement.
- 9) indemnify and save harmless the DFWT from and against any and all actions, suits, claims, demands, damages and losses, howsoever arising as a result of the establishment and operation of the DFWT Blueberry Rest program.

DELTA FARMLAND & WILDLIFE TRUST WILL:

- 1) Cost-share the establishment and management of a grass field as a pollinator set-aside by paying the cooperator \$500/acre/year. DFWT's cost-share will be reduced by 50% if the set-aside is harvested during any year (\$250/acre/year). An additional \$150/acre will be provided in the first year of the pollinator set-aside to support seeding costs.
- 2) in the unlikely event that DFWT has a lack of funds to continue the program in the following year, notify the cooperator before **April 1, 2024** of non-renewal of this agreement. This agreement can be renewed annually for up to four additional years (five years total) providing funding is available. A one-year extension after five years is made at the Program Manager's discretion and is subject to funding availability.

IMPORTANT:

DFWT, upon review of the Pollinator Set-Aside, may decline eligibility of the set-aside at any time if vegetation is too sparse (vegetative cover of the Pollinator Set-Aside must be 75% or greater). Pollinator Set-aside Mix should be planted at 40-50lb/acre.

If establishment in the first year is deemed, for any reason, to be unsuccessful, soil tests may be conducted, and/or lime applications and/or reseeding may be required. All costs associated with these activities are to be paid by the cooperator.

In the event that the cooperator does not maintain the Pollinator Set-aside in accordance with the standards prescribed herein, the DFWT obligations pursuant to this agreement shall cease.

Schedule A.

Farm/Land Disclosure (Blueberry Rest Program area (funded and on waiting list) will be limited to 50% of the total area farmed and/or owned by the applicant or 50 acres whichever is the lesser)

How much land do you own/farm within Metro Vancouver and Abbotsford?

Own Farm _____ acres Non-Owned Farm _____ acres

Field Description

Address(es): _____

Field Size: _____ acres Planting Date: _____ Seeding Rate: _____ lbs/acre Planting

Method: _____ Type of Pollinator Seed Mix: _____

Is field laser levelled? yes no If yes, when? _____

Is effective sub-surface drainage installed in field? yes no

What margins of the field have drainage ditches in working condition? _____

Are there areas of the field where crop establishment is consistently poor? _____

Please describe: _____

When was lime last applied to the field? _____

Please mark the location of the field on regional maps available from Delta Farmland and Wildlife Trust.

Management Requirements

The following are management practices that may be required to be performed at the Cooperator's expense for the establishment and maintenance of the pollinator field as a set-aside:

- application of fertilizer or manure if and when required
- weed control – preferably through mowing or selective cutting
- soil surface ditching to reduce water ponding if and when required
- mowing or harvesting – as per guidelines set forth in the attached agreement.

Cooperator's Name: _____

Tel # _____

Company Name: _____

Fax # _____

Mailing Address: _____

Cell # _____

X

Cooperator's Signature

X

DFWT Signature