



Ohio State Phenology Garden Network Pollinator Monitoring Instructions

Once a week, observe each plant in bloom for 3 minutes. This includes all plants in the Phenology Garden collection, not just the new native perennials.

The day should be sunny with little wind, and at least 50°F.

- Only collect data on pollinators that land on flowers. The bee or other visitor must stop on the flower to be counted.
- As much as possible, do not count visitors that leave a flower and quickly return as separate visits. Use your best judgment on this.
- Be careful not to disturb insects visiting flowers before you get a chance to observe them. A chair and binoculars might be handy.
- Avoid sudden movements and do not stand too close to the flower you are observing.
- Insects respond to shadows passing overhead by moving away; walk so that your shadow trails you, rather than advances in front of you.
- “No” pollinators is just as important as pollinator visits: be sure to record “0” if no pollinators visited the plant.

When it's convenient, visit the data collection website (<http://go.osu.edu/pn>) and enter the total number of pollinators in each category for each observed plant.

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