



APISBLOOM®

Pollination enhancer for honey bees, *Apis mellifera*

ISCA Technologies is proud to introduce its Specialized Pheromone & Lure Application Technology (SPLAT) for the enhancement of pollination by honey bees. APIS Bloom is designed to improve honeybee pollination of flowering crops by increasing the bees' foraging range and productivity, and inducing them to remain in the treated field for longer periods of time.

Honeybees typically prefer to forage relatively close to their hives, and selectively target flowers that offer the most plentiful stores of pollen and nectar. APIS Bloom, applied in small dollops directly to the surfaces of plants, steadily releases predetermined quantities of a semiochemical naturally produced by worker bees, called Nasonov pheromone, to mark the flowers they visit, indicating to other bees productive sources of pollen and nectar. When dispersed throughout the field, APIS Bloom induces foraging honeybees to regard the treated crop as a desirable food source, thereby preventing them from leaving the field in search of alternative sources. Field studies conducted in apples and almonds showed that treatment with APIS Bloom resulted in consistently higher levels of pollination and fruit set in both crops, as compared with untreated control plots.



Clockwise: APIS Bloom dollop, honey bee pollinating flower, caulking gun application of APIS Bloom.

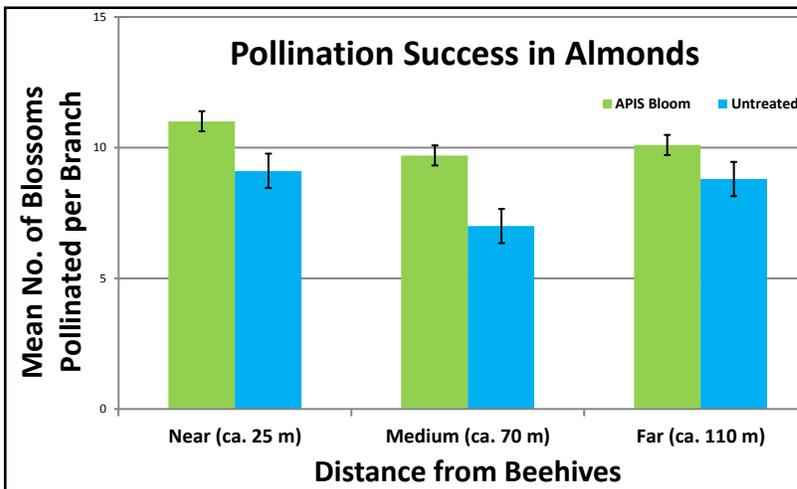


Figure 1. The number of blossoms pollinated increased at all distances with APIS Bloom. The mean number of blossoms pollinated at the near distance increased by 24%, the medium distance increased by 28% and the far distance show an 18% increase (preliminary field trial data, 2013). This research indicates that APIS Bloom may be effective at improving levels of pollination and fruit set without overworking the bee population.



Pest Management Tools & Solutions

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