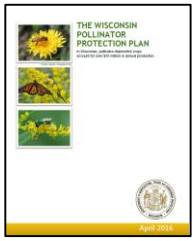


Public feedback on the draft Wisconsin Pollinator Protection Plan

The draft Wisconsin Pollinator Protection Plan (PPP) was available online for public comment during January 19 – February 19, 2016 (32 days). Notice of the opportunity to comment was circulated via a DATCP press release, the front page of DATCP's website, various news stories from UW-Madison, Wisconsin Public Radio and newspapers, and at outreach events at three industry tradeshows/conferences {Wisconsin Agribusiness Association (WABA), Wisconsin Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Growers (WFFVG), Wisconsin Pest Control Association (WPCA)}.

This document summarizes the content of the comments received, who submitted comments and how the issues raised were addressed by the department.

Who submitted comments?

The department received 29 unique comments:

- 19 commenters were individuals
- 9 commenters represented organizations:
  - growers' groups or cooperatives (3 comments)
  - conservation non-governmental organizations (NGOs) (2 comments)
  - government agencies (2 comments)
  - agricultural industry (1 comment)
  - local task force (1 comment)
- 538 unique individuals sent an identical message as a coordinated action alert email effort (1 comment).
- Comments were received from 19 Wisconsin-based individuals or groups, 5 regional or national groups, and 5 who did not specify a location.
- Groups and individuals who were not direct participants in the plan development provided 24 comments, and 5 of the invited stakeholders who participated in the plan development submitted formal comments.

What did the comment say?

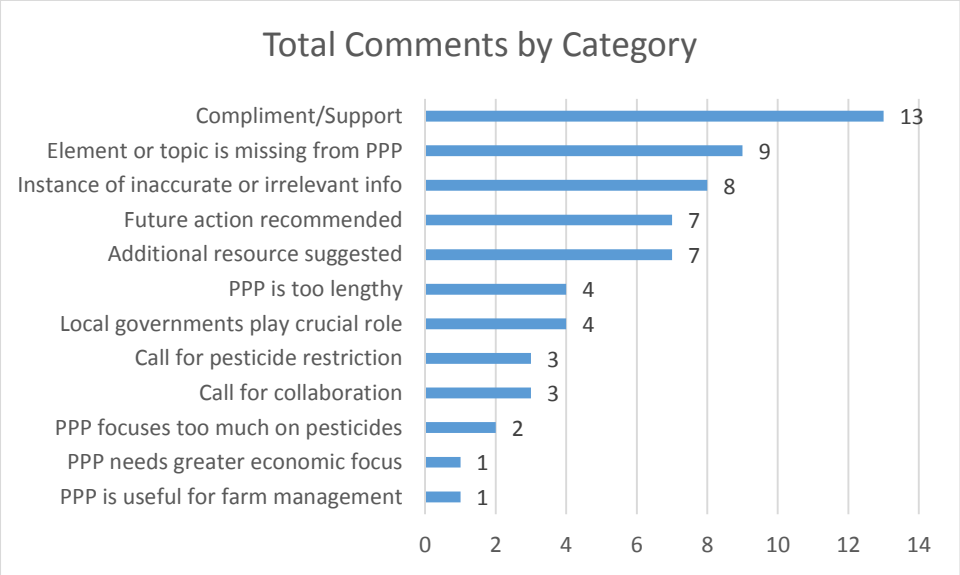
Overall, many good suggestions for future actions for pollinator protection in Wisconsin, opportunities for collaboration, and additional resources to cite in future versions of the PPP were submitted. Comments are categorized by generalized topic areas in the tables and graph below:

- 13 comments complimented the PPP's authors and/or expressed support of the plan.
- 9 comments recommended a topic or point be added to the PPP, while 4 recommended the plan be shortened.
- 3 comments called for harsher restrictions on pesticides (1 of which represented the mass email from 538 individuals), while 2 expressed that there was too much focus on pesticides in the PPP.

How were the comments addressed?

When evaluating the content of each comment, the department first made a distinction between issues that can be addressed within the plan (Within Scope), and topics that were beyond the scope of the plan (Outside Scope) and are best dealt with in another manner:

Comment Within Scope of Plan	**Rationale**	**Changes made**
Minor edits: • Include additional reference(s) • Update or clarify information • Edit spelling/ grammar/ formatting	Primarily these comments did not involve changes to content, and were straightforward to incorporate. Commenters provided many useful references and editing suggestions.	• Incorporated new references and updated/clarified information • Defined confusing terms in-text • Made spelling, grammar and formatting edits
Length of the Plan: • Expand specific content areas • Add new/missing information • Remove information to reduce the Plan's length	This project was not approached with a specific document length in mind, yet did have a goal of providing a comprehensive educational resource for diverse audiences. Those wanting a shorter document are encouraged to extract sections of the plan relevant to their specific organizations or groups. On the other hand, those wanting more specific information on a certain topic are encouraged to use the references cited in the plan to learn more.	• Editing for more concise and clear language • Added information on pertinent topics
Continue to work inclusively with stakeholders	The Plan identifies this as a priority.	Continue working with stakeholders.
Comment Outside Scope of Plan	**Rationale**	**Changes made**
Recommendations to manage or certify habitat, including prairies, lawns and roadsides.	DATCP is not involved in these activities, other state agencies and organizations need to take the lead.	We will share comments with relevant agencies and organizations.
Calls to restrict pesticide use	Developing the plan was from the beginning an educational, non-regulatory endeavor. The regulatory process is very different from the process we undertook.	Regulatory actions need to be made in accordance with state law, and are directed by the state legislature.
Collaborate with and provide guidance for local governments	Stakeholders all share the responsibility for implementing the plan.	Encourage collaboration



Comment Category	**Commentor's Sector**						
	Agency	Industry	Grower Group	Conservation NGO	Local Task Force	Individual	All
Compliment/Support	2	1	3	2	1	4	13
Element or topic is missing from PPP	2	0	1	2	0	4	9
Instance of inaccurate or irrelevant info	1	1	1	0	1	4	8
Future action recommended	0	0	0	1	1	5	7
Additional resource suggested	2	0	0	1	0	4	7
Local governments play crucial role	0	0	0	0	1	3	4
PPP is too lengthy	0	1	3	0	0	0	4
Call for collaboration	0	0	0	1	1	1	3
Call for pesticide restriction	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
PPP focuses too much on pesticides	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
PPP is useful for farm management	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
PPP needs greater economic focus	0	0	1	0	0	0	1