Horticulture Research Protocols

Annual Flowering Herbs for Pollinators

Objectives: Evaluate the flowering period, pollinator activity, and attractiveness of three annual flowering herbs: borage, lemon basil, and anise hyssop or cilantro.

Farmer-cooperator will:
- **Take photos** throughout the project
- Keep in contact with PFI with updates and questions
- **Spring 2016**, plant herbs in randomized, replicated plots by variety, or as demonstration plots (both options shown below).
- **Summer 2016**, collect data on plant character, including stature, inflorescence, canopy density, and bloom density and record in the provided Excel workbook.
- **Summer 2016**, when flowers are in bloom, count pollinators along transects in each plot using a revised method from Xerces Society's "Streamline Bee Monitoring Protocol for Assessing Pollinator Habitat."
- **Summer 2016**, two weeks after first pollinator count, count pollinators again and record in the provided Excel workbook.
- Turn in all data by October 2016.

Practical Farmers of Iowa will:
- *Help set up protocol including Excel workbook for data entry, provide support as needed.*
- *Analyze data and publish results in a PFI research report, on PFI website, and potentially other outlets.*
- *Provide $550 cooperator payment at conclusion of project year.*

Randomized and Replicated Plot Layout

	rows of regular crops		
Rep1	Borage	Lemon Basil	Anise Hyssop
	rows of regular crops		
Rep2	Lemon Basil	Anise Hyssop	Borage
	rows of regular crops		
Rep3	Anise Hyssop	Borage	Lemon Basil
	rows of regular crops		

Demonstration Plot Layout

rows of regular crops
Borage
rows of regular crops
Lemon Basil
rows of regular crops
Anise Hyssop
rows of regular crops

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