



## Volume 1, Issue 2



The end of summer is drawing near, but the buzz doesn't stop here! [National Pollinator Week](#) activities were once again a great success, and we were able to donate a total of \$10,000 to [Pollinator Partnership](#) through our Pollinator Pledge for the second year in a row. We also honored [Salem4Youth](#), this year's recipient of the first Bayer Bee Care Community Leadership Award.



Seed treatments are even better with Bayer's innovative new [Fluency Agent](#). Find out more below!



Bayer Bee Care has also furthered its commitment to honey bees and celebrated the contribution of bees to the [Kansas City landscape](#) by planting a pollinator-friendly garden at [Lakeside Nature Center](#) in Swope Park.



### **Bayer CropScience North America Celebrates National Pollinator Week**

In celebration of the contribution pollinators make to the world's food supply and plant variety, Bayer took part in [National Pollinator Week](#) (June 17-23) by hosting employee, community and Congressional events aimed at increasing awareness of the importance of pollinator health.

Activities included:

- Reception in Washington, D.C. for Congressional members interested in furthering pollinator health where this year's recipient of the first Bayer Bee Care Community Leadership Award was honored. The award was, presented to [Salem4Youth](#), an organization that exemplifies a commitment to bee health in the community
- Family day at Bayer's Kansas City, Missouri location where employees and their families enjoyed the Bee Care Tour exhibit and a day designed to promote pollinator health education and understanding

- Participation in USDA's People's Garden event to discuss pollinator health

For the second year, Bayer renewed its 'Pollinator Pledge' and joined efforts with the non-profit [Pollinator Partnership](#) for the initiative to help support the [North American Pollinator Campaign](#). Through the 'Pollinator Pledge,' Bayer contributed \$1 for each person who took the pledge and sent them a free packet of wildflower seeds to start their own pollinator garden.



bee care

### **Bayer Bee Care Community Leadership Award Winner: Salem4Youth**

This year's recipient of the first [Bayer Bee Care Community Leadership Award](#) was [presented to Steve McNair](#), director of Salem4Youth located in Flanagan, Illinois. This award recognizes individuals or organizations that have harnessed the power of the honey bee colony to benefit their community. Applicants are judged on their ability to improve a community by leveraging the intrinsic workings of a honey bee hive. The recipient's organization is awarded \$5,000 to aid in the advancement of the winning initiative.



Salem4Youth is a therapeutic residential program for at-risk, young men ages 12-18 years old. The organization's four-phased program focuses on social skills needed to help its members reintegrate into their communities and develop a successful future.

"With the edition of the [apiary program](#) to our campus the bees have become fellow residents with the young men," said Steve McNair, director at Salem4Youth. "Once we set up the hives, talked about bees and their benefit to the food chain through pollination, the young men eagerly 'suited up' and quickly took to working with the bees. As they learn, care for and feed the bees they become further engaged in apiculture."



Salem4Youth plans to use the honey they harvest for cooking, to sell locally and as gifts to their donors and supporters. The young men look forward to the first taste of "Salem Sweetness"; honey manufactured by their fellow honey bee residents. For more information please visit [Salem4youth](#).

bee care

## Creating pollinator paradise in Kansas City!



Volunteers transformed a 70x30-foot area of land into a [pollinator paradise](#), featuring year-round blooming trees, plants and flowers, all designed to create a suitable habitat for honey bees at the [Lakeside Nature Center](#) in Swope Park in Kansas City. This collaboration with public, private and nonprofit stakeholders in Kansas City was aimed to raise awareness about the importance of honey bees to the Kansas City landscape.



The Lakeside Nature Center in Swope Park, a wildlife rehabilitation facility, provided the perfect backdrop for the planting and will provide forage to honey bees and many native pollinators in the area. Representatives from [Bayer's Bee Care Program](#), [Bridging the Gap](#) and the [Kansas City Missouri parks and recreation department](#) discussed Bayer's commitment to bee health, the value bees provide to Kansas City's parks and recreational spaces and their importance to our global food supply. More than 20 volunteers were onsite to assist in the planting process, in addition to local bee keepers who provided bees for an observation hive at the garden.



## Protecting Pollinators Through Technology and Stewardship

Bayer CropScience has been evaluating new technologies that would reduce the dust emitted from treated seeds as they are abraded through corn planting equipment. During the [International Conference on Pollinator Biology, Health and Policy](#) at Penn State (August 14-17), Bayer experts presented on a newly developed lubricant that reduces the dust levels from treated seeds during planting so as to mitigate potential exposure to bees while promoting best management practices for seed treatment applicators, growers and beekeepers.

Testing of the [fluency agent](#) developed from a polyethylene wax substrate has been an ongoing collaboration with major planting manufacturers. Large-scale field testing using a wide range of planters and geographies across the U.S. and Canada were conducted to evaluate real-world applicability. Test results thus far have shown a significant decrease in both dust and the already low levels of active ingredient emissions. Major planter manufacturers are also doing internal testing and all feedback to date has been positive.

Availability of the fluency agent will begin in the fall of 2013 in time for the 2014 planting season. Grower comments and farmer testimonials were also featured at the [2013 Farm Progress Show](#) in Decatur, Illinois.



**Project Objective**

Develop a new lubricant to reduce dust levels from treated seeds during planting so as to mitigate bee's potential exposure to pesticide

**LABORATORY EVALUATION**

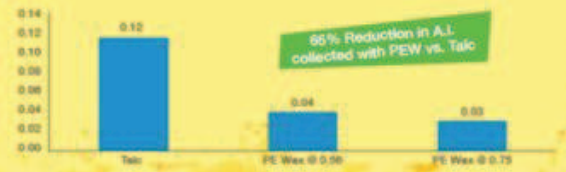
Talc versus Experimental Fluency Powder - Gms Total Dust / 100K Seed



\* Parach / 10710 and Parach / 260 + 10710 in Joint Drive Vacuum Meter

**LABORATORY EVALUATION**

Talc versus Experimental Fluency Powder - Gms Insecticide Active Ingredient Dust Per 100K Seed



**You can stay connected with Bayer Bee Health through all of our social media channels, including:**



- Bayer Bee Health website: <http://www.bayercropscience.us/our-commitment/bee-health>
- Facebook: [www.facebook.com/BayerBeeCareCenter](http://www.facebook.com/BayerBeeCareCenter)
- Twitter: [@BayerBeeCare](https://twitter.com/BayerBeeCare) or [@Bayer4CropsUS](https://twitter.com/Bayer4CropsUS)
- YouTube: [Bayer CropScience US – Bee Health](https://www.youtube.com/BayerCropScienceUS)
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