



## Tips for success

Many farms like a CSA farm are gifted with volunteers. **Strongly consider recruiting Bee Monitors to handle all learning, placement, cleaning, and storage of your bees.** Gardeners have no issues doing this across the country and it is fairly simple.

For best nesting, the spring bees need clean holes, available pollen within 300', and moist clayey-mud for their nesting chambers. Do not assume that wet dirt is ok. Bees without the ability to mine clay will leave and nest elsewhere. Do NOT ignore this advice. We have provided a mud box and dried clay for use under each bee shelter. Check the water level weekly. Consider creating a larger water reservoir with the included components.

Having clover, dandelions or other early flowers in bloom when the bees arrive will help them stay around.

For best nesting, the summer bees need clean holes, available pollen within 300', and non-fibrous leaves for their nesting chambers. It is hard for the summer bees to cut and carry leaf pieces from cucurbits. Consider planting sacrificial rose bushes or Hosta plants to provide extra foliage for the bees to use.

Summer bees naturally disperse to spread their progeny. Knowing this has Crown Bees provide additional bees to ensure adequate pollination occurs. In an average acre, about 1,000 cocoons should work well. This is about 400 females with an expected 100-200 females to nest elsewhere.

Chemical smells, whether nearby, or upwind are a native bee repellent. Be careful with spraying or your neighboring farmer's sprays. Let them know what you're doing and request that they spray in the late evenings as well.

The InvitaBee attractant works. Use the entire spray bottle up across the face of the nesting trays. A new spray bottle will be provided with each batch of bees. This helps less females dispersing.

Questions? Reach out to us at [pollination@crowdbees.com](mailto:pollination@crowdbees.com)