

## **Evaluation of Current USDA Contour Buffer & Filter Strip Designs as Resources for Pollinators and for Meeting Water Quality Improvement Goals in Iowa**

**Contract no. AG-3151-C-0041**

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**Quarterly Report:** 2 September 2016

### **Findings 2014 and 2015:**

Measures of bee community abundance and richness were found to be highest in contour buffer or filter strips with the highest flowering plant diversity indicating that such sites provided better habitat for bees. The frequency of blooming species was greater in strips with high plant diversity and this likely contributed to the higher bee abundances and species richness.

### **Oral and Poster Presentations:**

*Prairie on the Current Iowa Landscape.* Mary Harris, invited speaker, Environmental Defense Fund Monarch Habitat Exchange Program Workshop, Ames, IA, August 23, 2016.

*Prairie on the Current Iowa Landscape.* Mary Harris, invited speaker, "Iowa Prairie in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Symposium" at the Annual Meeting of the Iowa Academy of Science, Des Moines, IA, Apr. 22, 2016.

*Evaluation of CRP Contour Buffer and Filter Strips as habitat for native bees and predatory ground beetles.* Amy Moorhouse M.S. Candidate thesis seminar, Ames, IA; April 6, 2016.

*Evaluation of Current CRP Contour Buffer and Filter Strip Vegetation Mixes as Resources for Pollinators in Iowa.* Amy Moorhouse and Mary Harris. Graduate and Professional Student Research Conference, Poster presentation, Ames, IA; April 2, 2016.

*Evaluation of Current CRP Contour Buffer and Filter Strip Vegetation Mixes as Resources for Pollinators in Iowa.* Amy Moorhouse and Mary Harris. Poster presentation, Raccoon River Watershed Meeting, Perry, IA; March 5, 2016.

*STRIPS: Pollinator Case Study.* Amy Moorhouse and Dr. Mary Harris. Invited presentation, Ohio Pollinator Workshop, Wooster, Ohio; Feb 18, 2016.

*STRIPS: Evaluation of CRP Contour Buffer and Filter Strip Vegetation Mixes as Resources for Bees* Amy Moorhouse and Dr. Mary Harris. STRIPS Research Review Meeting, Ames, IA; Feb. 4, 2016

*STRIPS: Evaluation of Prairie Strips and CRP Contour Buffer and Filter Strip Vegetation Mixes as Resources for Bees.* Amy Moorhouse and Dr. Mary Harris. Invited speaker, Quad Cities Pollinator Symposium; Rock Island, IL; June 10, 2015.