



# Pollinator-friendly solar scorecard

The entomologist-approved standard for what constitutes “beneficial to pollinators” within the managed landscape of a PV solar facility. Only for use in countries and/or states that have not yet adopted a standard.

## 1. PERCENT OF PROPOSED SITE VEGETATION COVER TO BE DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS

- 31-45 % +5 points
- 46-60 % +10 points
- 61+ % +15 points

Total points

Note: Projects may have “array” mixes and diverse open area/ border mixes; forb dominance should be averaged across the entire site. The dominance should be calculated from total numbers of forb seeds vs. grass seeds (from all seed mixes) to be planted.

## 2. PLANNED % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES COVER

- 26-50% +5 points
- 51-75% +10 points
- 76-100% +15 points

Total points

## 3. PLANNED COVER DIVERSITY (# of species in seed mixes; numbers from upland and wetland mixes can be combined)

- 10-19 species +5 points
- 20-25 species +10 points
- 26 or more species +15 points

Total points

Note: exclude invasives from species totals.

## 4. PLANNED SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)

- Spring (April-May) +5 points
- Summer (June-August) +5 points
- Fall (September-October) +5 points

Total points

Note: Check local resources for data on bloom seasons

## 5. AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)

- Native bunch grasses for nesting +2 points
- Native trees/shrubs for nesting +2 points
- Clean, perennial water sources +2 points
- Created nesting feature/s (bee blocks, etc.) +2 points

Total points

## 6. SITE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

- Detailed establishment and management plan developed with funding/contract to implement +15 points
- Signage legible at 40 or more feet stating "pollinator friendly solar habitat" (at least 1 every 20ac.) +5 points

Total points

## 7. SEED MIXES

- Mixes are composed of at least 40 seeds per square foot +5 points
- All seed genetic origin within 175 miles of site +5 points
- At least 2% milkweed cover to be established from seed/plants +10 points

Total points

## 8. INSECTICIDE RISK

- Planned on-site insecticide use or pre-planting seed/plant treatment (excluding buildings/ electrical boxes, etc.) -40 points
- Perpetual bare ground under the panels as a result of pre and post emergent herbicide. -40 points
- Communication/registration with local chemical applicators about need to prevent drift from adjacent areas. +10 points

Total points

## 9. OUTREACH/EDUCATION

- Site is part of a study with a college, university, or research lab. +5 points

Grand total

**Provides Exceptional Habitat** >85  
**Meets Pollinator Standards** 70-84

Project Name:  
Vegetation Consultant:  
Project Location:  
Total acres (array and open area):  
Projected Seeding Date:

Note: Percent “cover” should be based on “absolute cover” (the percent of the ground surface that is covered by a vertical projection of foliage as viewed from above). To measure cover diversity use plots, and/or transects in addition to meander searches. Wildflowers in question 1 refer to “forbs” (flowering plants that are not woody or graminoids) and can include introduced clovers and other non-native, non-invasive species beneficial to pollinators.

