



Why You Need Hedgerows and How to Get Them –

Part 2

Billy Synk, Pollinator Habitat Specialist

Management

0 to 12 Months After Installation

Surveying the site for weeds on a regular basis is critical during the first 1 year of establishment to prevent weeds from outcompeting the plants before they have fully matured. As soon as weeds are observed they should be treated with a targeted herbicide application or other method of weed control which can be conducted easily with a backpack sprayer or removed by hand. The more attention spent on weed control and proper irrigation while the plants are still young and vulnerable, the better the habitat will be throughout its lifetime. While native plants require less maintenance over time, the installation of any new habitat will require some attention to help it succeed.

12-24 Months After Installation

Surveying for weed re-establishment should continue throughout the lifetime of the project. Management activities, including spot mowing or targeted spot herbicide treatment, should be anticipated to keep control over weeds and prevent re-establishment or spread. However, once the habitat reaches maturity, management actions will be greatly reduced as the desired vegetation will naturally outcompete weeds. Targeted herbicide treatments like spot spraying resistant weeds can occur if needed.

Irrigation

The species recommended for pollinator habitat are native to the central valley of California and have evolved to tolerate dry and hot climates. However, installing irrigation drastically increases the chance of successful establishment, particularly during drought years. Irrigate during the non-rainy months (May–September) for



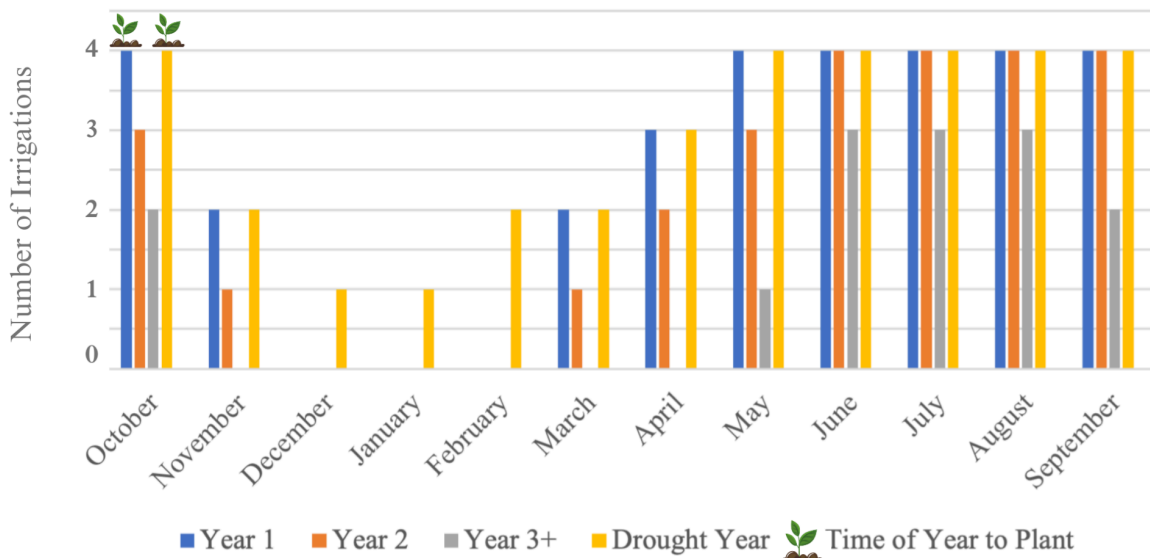
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the first 2 or 3 years. If experiencing drought, irrigation will also be required during the rainy season (November – April) It should be noted, the first year is when the risk of plant survival is at its highest, especially the first 6 months. The root zone of specimens planted in the fall should remain moist until seasonal rains occur. Slight modifications in the water schedule will have to be made based on monitoring of the plants during establishment. Once plants reach maturity adequate irrigation can be as little as 1-3 times per month during the non-rainy season (May–September) and zero times per month during the rainy season. The frequency will vary depending on soil types. Sandy soil will drain faster thus requiring more. Soils with greater amounts of organic matter or clay will hold water more efficiently thus requiring less. The following chart serves only as a general guideline about how many irrigation events will be necessary.

Approximate Number of Irrigations Per Year



At no point during the year should any of these sites have standing water. Species like California lilac (*Ceanothus spp.*), Flannel Bush (*Fremontodendron californicum*),



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