

Grower Spotlight:

Pante Farms

Through Bee Friendly Gardening your space can provide support to pollinators and other wildlife. Just as BFG helps people play a bigger role in the health of pollinators and the planet, Bee Friendly Farming (BFF) unites agricultural producers in this same mission. As a BFG Member, you are connecting to a larger network of Bee Friendly Farming Certified producers, supporting farmers, and building recognition for the good work they are doing for our pollinators. The Bee Friendly programs help farmers and gardeners incorporate affordable, simple, science-based practices, like offering nutrition and nesting for bees, and implementing integrated pest management strategies.



Located in Durham, CA, Pante Farms operates 35 acres of almonds. Offering bee-attracting



flowering perennials, berries, ground cover and cover crops, pollinator friendly wildlife plantings, flowering hedgerows, flowering trees that provide nectar and pollen, and wilder areas not managed but allowed to flower. Pante Farms has bloom in spring, summer, fall, and winter through clover cover crop, wildflowers, magnolia trees, and much much more. They provide clean drinking water for bees by utilizing clean irrigation, rainwater collection systems, irrigation canals, and water buckets. Nesting features are available onsite through undisturbed, untilled ground, hedgerows, and naturally landscaped areas. Their efforts focus on not disturbing the balance of the ecosystem and keeping this in mind when making pest management decisions.

"Joining the Bee Friendly Farming program was a natural choice for our farm since we have been pollinator friendly for many years. The legacy of pollinator friendly habitats was started in 1977 by Marlene Pante whose passion for flowers and gardening created refuge for native pollinators. Her husband Gene Pante farmed the land as

naturally as possible and passed those philosophies on to the next generation. Life is a balance on our farm; we strive to strike a balance with nature while also using modern technologies to assist in orchard management. Providing forage, habitat, and water for pollinators is one way in which farms can help tip the scales toward nature and bring more balance to agricultural





practices. The Bee Friendly Farming program has allowed this information and farming practices to be shared across a broader audience and we are happy to support the program and continue a legacy of pollinator friendly farming started on our land many years ago."

-Sophia Pante, Pante Farms







