

# The Monarch Collaborative

*Identifying and implementing solutions on agricultural and ranching lands to achieve a sustainable monarch butterfly population*

Monarch populations have declined over the past two decades. Because they face serious challenges today, a diverse and dedicated group of organizations spanning the research community, agricultural production, conservation causes, public agencies, and others are working to identify solutions to promote conservation and recovery of monarch butterflies and their migratory phenomenon.

The Monarch Collaborative is working to identify how partnerships in the farming and ranching community can support and enhance habitat for a sustainable monarch population.

## Who We Are

The Monarch Collaborative consists of national organizations representing farmers, ranchers, and land owners; businesses working along the agricultural supply chain; researchers and academic institutions; federal and state entities; and conservation organizations.

Because farmers and ranchers are stewards of the land across much of monarch habitat, they are in a unique position to support sustainable monarch populations.

Farmers, ranchers, and landowners already are engaged in conservation initiatives focused on water quality, erosion control, wildlife, and pollinator habitat. These efforts demonstrate that continuing innovation in agricultural practices can reduce environmental impacts, increase crop productivity, and be compatible with monarch conservation efforts.

## Our Approach

We support productive agriculture and livestock operations in concert with monarch conservation. An increase in milkweed and nectar plants appropriately placed in rural areas can benefit monarchs without inhibiting production.

We are committed to make progress through voluntary efforts to restore, enhance, and protect monarch habitat while maintaining producers' flexibility in their operations.

The Collaborative is utilizing the expertise and experience of its members to:

- Identify agricultural and conservation practices to support healthy monarch populations.
- Increase awareness of those strategies with the agricultural community and other interested parties.
- Promote the implementation of practices that will support monarch butterfly populations in agricultural landscapes.

## Why Our Work Matters

Reversing this trend will require coordinated, collaborative efforts. Engaging in voluntary habitat conservation can be a win-win for all involved, and help ensure productive lands and resilient monarch populations for future generations.



Photos courtesy of U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

## Members

- American Farm Bureau Federation
- American Soybean Association
- BASF Corporation
- Bayer Crop Science
- DuPont Pioneer
- Iowa State University
- Land O'Lakes, Inc.
- Monarch Watch - University of Kansas
- Monarch Joint Venture
- Monsanto Company
- National Association of Wheat Growers
- National Corn Growers Association
- National Wildlife Federation
- Pheasants Forever, Inc.
- Saint Louis Zoo WildCare Institute
- Sand County Foundation
- Syngenta

## With input from

- Monarch Lab – University of Minnesota
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service



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