



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
COMMISSIONER ADAM H. PUTNAM

April 8, 2016

Dear State Lead Agency, Tribal or Territory:

It is our pleasure to invite your agency to participate in the 2016 Pollinator Protection Pesticide Inspector Regulatory Training (PIRT) program hosted by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) in conjunction with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The course will be held at the [Embassy Suites](#) in Kissimmee, FL from **September 13-16, 2016**.

The target audience for this course will be new or experienced inspectors who have not attended PIRT training in the last two years. The objective of this course is to focus on pollinator protection as it relates to pesticides, including understanding pollinators, bee kill investigations, pollinator labeling language, pollinator protection plans, and sampling of bees. Please see the [draft agenda](#) for session topics.

Classes will begin the morning of September 13, 2016 and end midday on September 16, 2016. **September 12** and the afternoon of **September 16** will be set aside for travel. Attendees with extended travel time may be approved to for an additional night of hotel in Kissimmee if they provide reasonable justification.

Hotel, airfare and meals associated with attending the training will be paid by FDACS through funding provided by EPA for selected States, Tribes, and Territories. Participants will be reimbursed for other expenses including airline baggage fees, airport parking, and other meals that are not provided in accordance with FDACS per diem rates of \$6 for breakfast, \$11 for lunch, and \$19 for dinner. Participants will be responsible for any incidental expenses, such as car rentals, hotel telephone charges, room service, movies, etc.

We are looking forward to having your nominee attend this training opportunity. We realize that this represents a substantial commitment of time. However, FDACS and the EPA feel the curriculum will enhance the ability of your inspector to address pollinator protection issues in your State, Tribe or Territory. Therefore, we request a full commitment from the participants to attend and participate in the entire program.

Supervisors of inspectors, please submit this [online nomination form](#) for one representative and one alternate nominee from your agency by **June 9, 2016**. Please select individuals who can benefit most from the course with the understanding that they must be able to attend the training in its entirety. Preference will be given to individuals who have not attended a PIRT course in the last two years. Once the nomination form has been received, participants will be notified if they've been selected and additional information will be provided by **July 1, 2016**.

If you have any questions pertaining to this program, please feel free to contact FDACS's Neil Richmond at (850) 617-7862 or EPA's Shirley Fan at (202) 564-2425.

Sincerely,

Neil D. Richmond, Assistant Chief
Bureau of Inspection and Incident Response