## Annual Flowering Herbs for Pollinators

**Objectives**: Evaluate the flowering period, pollinator activity, and attractiveness of three annual flowering herbs: borage, lemon basil, and anise hyssop or cilantro.

**Farmer-cooperator will**:
- **Take photos** throughout the project
- Keep in contact with PFI with updates and questions
- **Spring 2016**, plant herbs in randomized, replicated plots by variety, or as demonstration plots (both options shown below).
- **Summer 2016**, collect data on plant character, including stature, inflorescence, canopy density, and bloom density and record in the provided Excel workbook.
- **Summer 2016**, when flowers are in bloom, count pollinators along transects in each plot using a revised method from Xerces Society’s “Streamline Bee Monitoring Protocol for Assessing Pollinator Habitat.”
- **Summer 2016**, two weeks after first pollinator count, count pollinators again and record in the provided Excel workbook.
- Turn in all data by October 2016.

**Practical Farmers of Iowa will**:
- Help set up protocol including Excel workbook for data entry, provide support as needed.
- Analyze data and publish results in a PFI research report, on PFI website, and potentially other outlets.
- Provide $550 cooperator payment at conclusion of project year.

### Randomized and Replicated Plot Layout

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rep1</th>
<th>Borage</th>
<th>Lemon Basil</th>
<th>Anise Hyssop</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rep2</td>
<td>Lemon Basil</td>
<td>Anise Hyssop</td>
<td>Borage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rep3</td>
<td>Anise Hyssop</td>
<td>Borage</td>
<td>Lemon Basil</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Demonstration Plot Layout

| rows of regular crops
| Borage       |
| rows of regular crops
| Lemon Basil  |
| rows of regular crops
| Anise Hyssop |

**Contact**: Liz Kolbe, Horticulture Coordinator (515) 232-5661; liz@practicalfarmers.org

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