Case Study

Business supporter – All-Ireland Pollinator Plan – www.pollinators.ie

astellas

Astellas Ireland (Kerry Plant) is a finished goods pharmaceutical facility based in Killorglin, Co. Kerry, and headquartered in Japan. Astellas specialises in transplant, kidney, bladder and cancer drugs. It employs over 400 people on the Kerry site.


Buff-tailed bumblebee on site

PIC: Jade Whyte


PIC: Conor Kelly


PIC: Colm Timmons

'A *Biodiversity Tour*, including signage, has been set up on the Astellas site and presented to various visitors and employees. Areas such as the sand bank for mining bees, pollinator friendly planting, log piles, solitary bee hotels, and bat boxes, have been included in this tour.'

Roseanna O'Brien,

Environmental Officer, Astellas

Future Plans:

Astellas plans to maintain the hedgerows surrounding the new field for pollinators, planting pollinator friendly species, and managing bare soil areas suitable for solitary bees. Grassy areas around the main site will continue to be cut on a 6-weekly reduced-mowing regime. Astellas will also continue to map, manage and monitor Invasive Species on site. Astellas will begin to engage staff in citizen science such as 'FIT' Counts, Butterfly transects and Bumblebee monitoring for those who have completed the Bumblebee identification course.

In line with the AIPP evidence-based '*Businesses: actions to help pollinators*' guidelines, Astellas has delivered the following actions :	Evidence-based Action delivered:
Astellas has recorded and mapped the native tree species present on the New Field Site. **Invasive species /restoration** Astellas has mapped the invasive species Japanese Knotweed and American Skunk Cabbage in the SAC. A large-scale management plan for the removal of Japanese Knotweed (New Field Site) has been completed and a post removal management plan has been implemented. A Rapid Assessment tool for the wildflower meadow (New Field Site) will allow monitoring of any changes in species diversity going forward, providing a means to measure the response to management efforts and monitor any ecological succession in newly restored areas such as the Japanese Knotweed removal site.	**Action 2** Develop a plan to protect existing sources of food and shelter **Action 2** Develop a plan to protect existing sources of food and shelter
Wildflower meadows have been introduced in several different areas around the site, the areas around the two trees in our car park and a large area next to our contractor's compound.	**Action 5** Create a short-flowering meadow **(reduced mowing & lift cuttings)**
Astellas has designated the large field adjacent to the main site as a wildflower meadow. Surveys of current species present have been conducted and will be repeated yearly to monitor the number of pollinator-friendly species present. A yearly cut and lift mowing regime has been put in place for this field to reduce the nutrient levels in the soil and encourage growth of pollinator friendly wildflowers.	**Action 6** Create a long-flowering meadow (reduced mowing)
The sandbank for solitary bees has been maintained/monitored for activity, with evidence of use by solitary bees being recorded. New potential areas for earth banks and stone walls have been marked for clearing in October to be used as nesting areas for more solitary bees. Ivy and Brambles adjacent to these areas will be maintained as a food source.	**Action 15** Provide nesting habitat for mining solitary bees
Astellas also has an Astellas Biodiversity Newsletter that is sent out to everyone onsite, local community and schools once a quarter.	**Action 26** Promote the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan to employees on a monthly basis


PIC: Colm Timmons


PIC: Roseanna O'Brien

AIPP Page Reference: *Resources for Business » All-Ireland Pollinator Plan (pollinators.ie)*:

Action 2: Page 8

Action 5: Pages 9

Action 15: Page 17

Action 26: Page 26

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