



# Observation Cheat Sheet



The area defined by the yellow dashed lines is your transect, the area you will move around during your observations. The pink dotted boxes are how you will break your transects into groups, also known as your Field Of View.

1

## Choose a transect that you will collect data from

A transect is the area or path that you choose for your observations. For example, the length of your garden bed or a section of your yard.

Within your transect, you will have your Field Of View or groups that you observe in 2 minute increments. This can be determined by using your forearms to create a square.

Your transect may change throughout the summer due to what plants are flowering, and that is ok! Follow the plants that are blooming.

## Tips for choosing a transect

If your yard is too large to monitor the entirety, pick a portion of the yard to monitor.

Trees and shrubs that produce flowers can be observed and recorded.

Pick the area with the most amount of flowers blooming



# 2

## Begin taking 2 minute observations of your Field Of View box

- Record the amount and type of bees visiting flowers
- Record plant species and number of flowers within your Field Of View
- If you have a large number of the same species of plant, you can do several 2-minute observations and then move to a new plant. You can choose the number of observations you do, just try to be consistent every week.



This is an example of a Field Of View box, which you will observe for 2 minutes. Within this Field Of View there are 10 individual flowers of the same species. On the data collection sheet you would record the plant name and 10 flowers.



This plant has many individual flowers. Since there are so many flowers to count and observe, you can round this up to 1000+ flowers in your observation.

### General tips

Create a map of your yard with plant labels to stay organized

Only observe and record flowering plants. If your plant has stopped blooming, you do not need to continue observing it.

Bees prefer warm, sunny days and are most active in the early morning or early afternoon. Do not monitor when it is below 60 degrees.

For trees - choose a square in an area which is easily observable and has blooms

For more monitoring tips, checkout this 6-minute video: <https://youtu.be/GPWoAON0kwc>



# 3

## End Monitoring session

- Report your data online on the Native Bee Watch Volunteer Portal ([nativebeewatch.org](http://nativebeewatch.org)) or you can go directly to the [Survey123 App](#)
- Please make observations of the same transect once a week at maximum

