This is a reminder that blooming linden trees are very attractive to wild native bees and also European honey bees.

Bee Safe – Carefully read and follow all the restrictions and precautions on pesticide labels. Most products will prohibit application of an insecticide while plants are blooming. However, even if the label language is unclear or seems advisory – bee smart and err on the side of caution. Do not apply an insecticide during bloom.

In addition, there are four active ingredients that can not be applied to/on linden trees in Oregon at any time of the year - regardless of pesticide label directions.

Rules to Protect Pollinators
In February 2015, the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) adopted a permanent rule prohibiting the use of any product containing the neonicotinoid insecticides dinotefuran, clothianidin, imidacloprid, or thiamethoxam, regardless of application method, on linden trees, basswood trees or other Tilia species. The permanent rule (OAR 603-057-0388) went into effect on February 27, 2015.

What Does this Rule Mean for You?
This rule supersedes product label language. This means that, even if a pesticide user has a pesticide label which provides directions for use on linden trees, ornamental trees (or a similar site), the product can not be used on linden trees, basswood trees or other Tilia species in the State of Oregon. Application methods prohibited include, but are not limited to: foliar, soil drench, tree or soil injection, and basal bark applications.

Compliance Requirements
Failure to comply with this Administrative Rule may result in a number of enforcement actions, including, but not limited to: license suspension or revocation, or imposition of a civil penalty.

Additional Resources
https://oda.direct/PollinatorIssues

For additional information or questions, contact the Oregon Department of Agriculture at (503) 986-4635, or email pestx@oda.state.or.us