



## Aldi

### Summary Of Aldi Grade



#### Pollinator Health Policy

20 Out Of 45 Points

##### EXPLANATION OF POINTS

In October, 2019, Aldi released a written, publicly available pollinator health policy for produce, live plant and flower suppliers. The policy encourages suppliers to transition away from nitroguanidine, neonicotinoids, glyphosate and chlorpyrifos (which was subsequently banned by the U.S. EPA in August 2021) toward alternative approaches that limit non-essential use of pesticides whenever possible, including Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategies and includes a clear definition of regenerative agriculture. The policy states that suppliers should avoid regrettable substitutes, or the replacement of one hazardous pesticide with another, and includes a link to a list of regrettable substitutes. The policy also states that Aldi supports and encourages the growth of the organic industry as demonstrated by the company's expanded offerings.

Aldi's policy does not include any timebound or measurable commitments to phase out pesticides of concern in its food and beverage supply chains or timebound commitments to expand the adoption of least-toxic practices in its food and beverage supply chains.

##### Commitment to reduce pesticide use

7 out of 15 points

##### Avoiding regrettable substitutes

5 out of 5 points

##### Commitment to least-toxic approaches in non-organic supply chains

3 out of 10 points

##### Commitment to organic

5 out of 15 points



#### Implementation

8 Out Of 90 Points

##### EXPLANATION OF POINTS

Aldi sends a mandatory survey to suppliers during the initial contract process and then annually during contract renewal requiring suppliers to disclose whether products were grown with chlorpyrifos and neonicotinoids.

Aldi has not taken any other discernible action to reduce use of pesticides of concern to pollinator and human health or expand organic farming and other least-toxic approaches in its supply chains. The actions we evaluated include: 1) tracking use of pesticides in company supply chains, 2) measurably reducing pesticide use in the past three

years and publicly reporting on data, 3) supporting farmers in non-organic supply chains to shift to least-toxic approaches such as integrated pest management and regenerative agriculture, 4) measurably expanding organic offerings in the past three years, 5) demonstrating support for U.S. growers to transition to organic farming, and 6) demonstrating advocacy for public policies aimed at reducing agricultural pesticide use, protecting pollinators and supporting the expansion of organic agriculture in the U.S.

#### Track pesticide use in supply chain

3 out of 10 points

#### Measurably reduce pesticide use

0 out of 15 points

#### Prioritize least-toxic approaches in non-organic supply chains

0 out of 20 points

#### Prioritize USDA certified organic

5 out of 25 points

#### Support domestic organic growers

0 out of 15 points

#### Support public policies

0 out of 5 points



## Transparency & Accountability

10.5 Out Of 21 Points

### EXPLANATION OF POINTS ▾

Aldi's pollinator health policy is publicly available on the company's website. The policy encourages suppliers to transition away from nitroguanidine neonicotinoids, glyphosate and chlorpyrifos (which was subsequently banned by the U.S. EPA in August 2021) and states that Aldi supports and encourages the growth of the organic industry as demonstrated by the company's expanded offerings. Aldi confirmed by email to Friends of the Earth that the company includes total organic sales in company Key Performance Indicators. Aldi educates consumers about organic food by including a complete definition of the USDA organic seal on its website. The website states: "All organic food must be produced in adherence with USDA Organic guidelines. These guidelines include, but are not limited to, the avoidance of synthetic pesticides, artificial fertilizers, GMOs, antibiotics, growth hormones, and irradiation. To learn more, please visit the USDA Organic Standards website. According to the USDA, organic products must also be produced with a focus on protecting natural resources and conserving biodiversity."

Aldi does not appear to include reduction of pesticides of concern to pollinators and human health in company Key Performance Indicators or other formal sustainability criteria. Aldi does not have educational content online on the value to pollinator and human health of decreasing use of toxic pesticides and expanding organic offerings.

#### Make policies and commitments publicly available

6 out of 6 points

#### Oversight

2.5 out of 5 points

#### Educate consumers

2 out of 10 points



## Collaboration

5 Out Of 10 Points

### EXPLANATION OF POINTS ▾

Aldi has communicated with Friends of the Earth in the past year.



## Complimentary Home & Garden Policies

4 Out Of 9 Points

### EXPLANATION OF POINTS ▾

Aldi's pollinator health policy encourages live plant and flower suppliers to transition away from use of neonicotinoids toward least-toxic approaches like Integrated Pest Management (IPM). Aldi has not made a timebound or measurable commitment to phase out use of neonicotinoids in live plant and flower supply chains.

Aldi has not made a public commitment to remove neonicotinoid or glyphosate products from store shelves.

**Policy for live goods**

4 out of 4 points

**Policy for on-shelf pesticide products**

0 out of 5 points



**Bonus Points**

0 Out Of 40 Points

**EXPLANATION OF POINTS** ▼

47.5 Points

**D+**  
GRADE