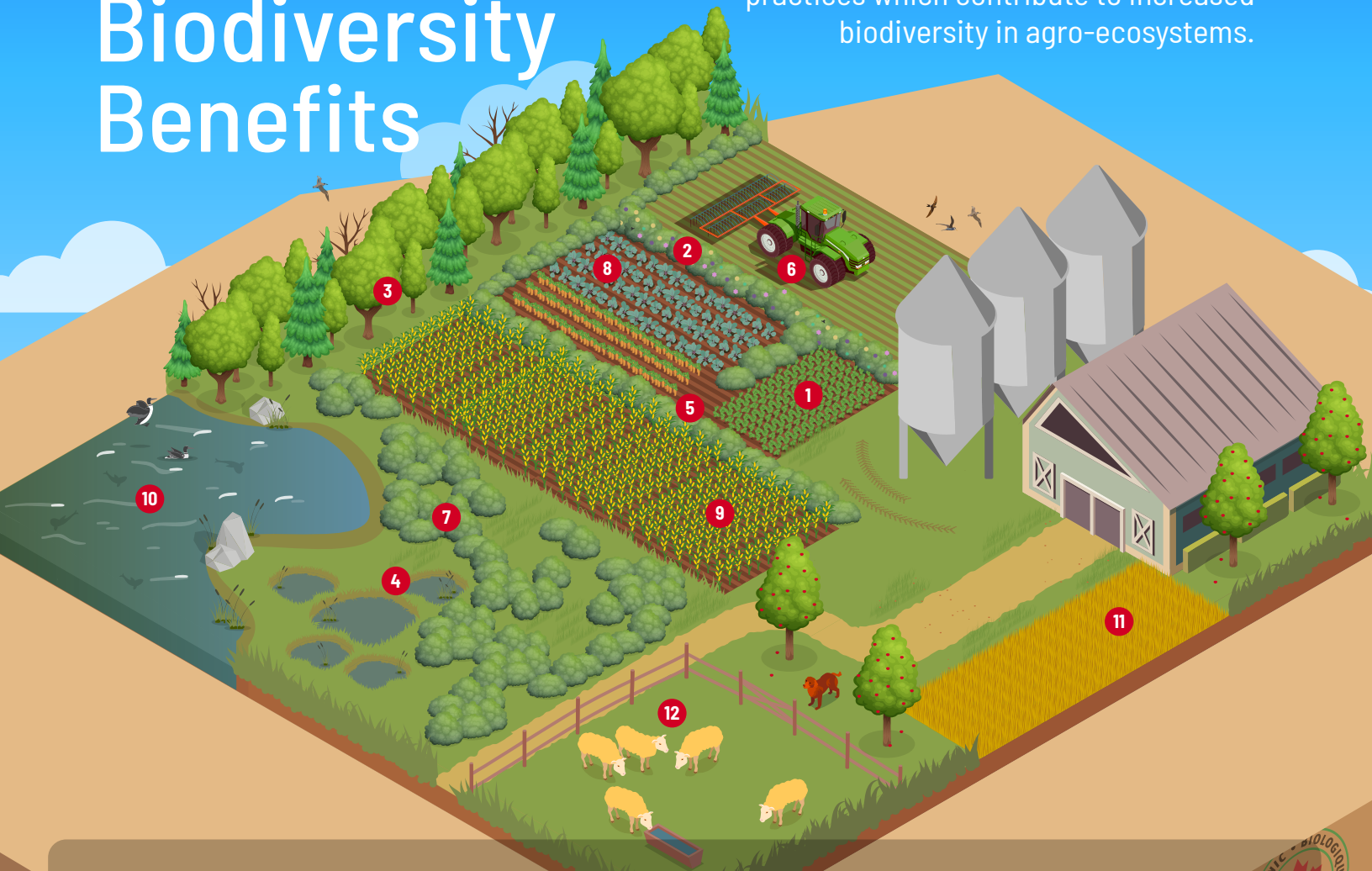


A Bundle of Biodiversity Benefits

Supporting organic farms, supports biodiversity. Here are some agricultural practices which contribute to increased biodiversity in agro-ecosystems.



1. Cover Crops

Support a diversity of healthy soil organisms.

2. Flowering Habitats

Attract and increase the abundance of pollinators as well as attracting natural enemies of pests to provide pest control.

3. Shelterbelts

Trees and shrubs protect farms from wind, while also creating natural habitat and resources for many animals and insects.

4. Wetlands

Wetlands provide natural habitat, while storing large amounts of carbon. Preserving wetlands helps to mitigate climate change while supporting many different insects and animals.

5. Hedgerows/Biodiversity Strips

Diversified woody vegetation provides habitat for a variety of wildlife species.

6. Ecological Weed Control

Organic farmers manage weeds without synthetic pesticides which create a risk of environmental contamination.

7. Riparian Buffers

Vegetation separating bodies of water from agricultural activity provides habitat while also reducing nutrient runoff and erosion.

8. Biocontrol

Organic farmers use biocontrols, natural enemies of pests, to help control pests.

9. Crop Rotation

Diversity of plant species over time, supports soil diversity and fertility, while naturally breaking pest cycles.

10. Clean Water

No synthetic pesticides or fertilizers leaching into local bodies of water, protecting aquatic life and water quality.

11. Natural Seed

Genetically engineered seed is not used in organic farming. Treatment of seed with synthetic pesticides is not permitted, thereby reducing risk of impacts on other organisms.

12. Crop-Livestock integration

Many organic farmers integrate livestock to diversify their farms and support recycling of nutrients.

