

AB162 (AS AMENDED)

ELIMINATES ALL NON-AGRICULTURE USE OF NEONICOTINOID PESTICIDES ON OUTDOOR PLANTS

Neonicotinoids (or "neonics" for short) are the most widely used group of insecticides in the world. They are absorbed on plants and can be present in pollen and nectar, making them toxic to bees. Neonics affect the nervous system of insects, humans and other animals.

THE JOURNEY OF NEONICOTINOID

"NEONICS" ARE NEUROTOXIC PESTICIDES DRIVING MASSIVE BEE POPULATION DECLINE.



2015 NATIONWIDE ASSESSMENT BY THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY FOUND NEONIC INSECTICIDES IN MORE THAN HALF OF ALL WATER STREAMS. (3)

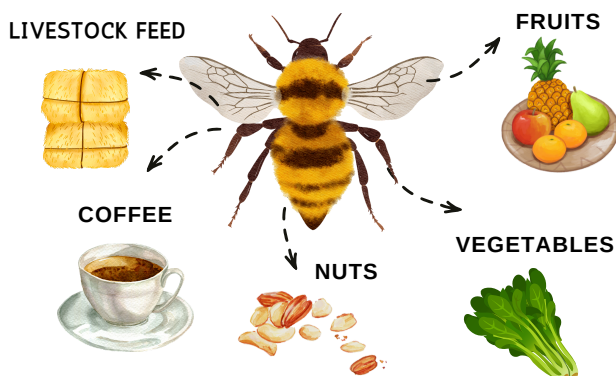


NEONIC LEVELS IN WILD DEER SPIKING. (4)



EXPOSURE TO NEONICS IN UTERO HAS BEEN LINKED TO A HIGHER RISK OF AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER (5)

ONE OUT OF EVERY THREE BITES OF OUR FOOD IS CREATED WITH THE HELP OF POLLINATORS (2)



NEVADA BEE KEEPERS LOST 71% OF THEIR COLONIES IN 2018/2019, AND 53% IN 2019/2020, THE HIGHEST RATES IN THE COUNTRY (1)



**SAVE THE BEES!
PASS AB162**

**See over for the good news
(and research!)**

THE GOOD NEWS

Neonic contamination is avoidable with prevention, monitoring and treating.

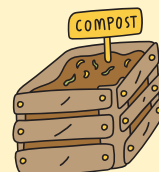
Prevention: Create a diverse garden with a variety of native flowers, grasses and bushes to encourage natural predators like birds and lady bugs. Avoid synthetic fertilizers, and use compost instead. For lawns, maintain a high mowing height (>2 inches) and less frequent watering.

Monitor: Determine your infestation level to decide appropriate action. Some bugs can be handpicked and removed.

Treat: Insecticidal soaps and biological/essential oils can be used on outdoor plants and vegetation to control pests. In addition, pheromone traps can be used for certain species. For lawns, nematodes (roundworms) can take care of many soil swelling insects.

For a list of products compatible with organic landscape management:
<https://www.beyondpesticides.org/resources/lawns-and-landscapes/tools-for-change/products-compatible-with-organic-landscape-management>

For alternative turf management without neonics:
<https://turf.cals.cornell.edu/golf-turf/>



Pesticide use isn't as critical as industry officials try to convince us they are....

A study recently published in the Proceedings of the Royal Society B finds that bee pollination, rather than pesticide use, had the largest effect on improving the yield of watermelons. "These data advocate for a reprioritization of management, to conserve and protect wild bee pollination, which could be more critical than avoiding pest damage for ensuring high yields," the study reads.

Pesticide spraying of urban trees was found to disrupt the ability of other beneficial species in landscape to naturally manage pest populations. This research, published in Environmental Entomology, found that moderate pest levels both attracted and maintain predators that provide critical biological control services in a landscape. "Treating a tree with pesticides could kill off natural enemies that would otherwise help manage nearby pests. In other words, treating a tree with pesticides could alleviate pest problems within the tree but could result in pest outbreaks in shrubs beneath the tree as natural enemies are killed off," said Caleb Wilson, PhD, of Michigan State University.

Other studies to note:

Neonics kill bees and other pollinators and are a major cause of colony collapse. (6)

Neonics have been detected in the urine of half the children ages 3 to 5 in a U.S. study. (7)

A Switzerland study found neonics in children undergoing treatment for leukemia and Non-Hodgkins lymphoma. Neonics were found in every sample of plasma and spinal fluid from the children undergoing treatment. (7)

Honey bees pollinate more than 130 types of fruits and vegetables. (2)

Neonics are water soluble so they contaminate soil and water resources; they can last up to 1,000 days after use. More than 20 studies around the world have recorded population declines in aquatic insects exposed to neonics, adversely affecting aquatic ecosystems. (8)

Neonics contaminate our waterways, killing aquatic insects. (9)

Neonics kill birds, fish and amphibians that feed on aquatic insects. (10)

Neonics are contributing to a major die-off of songbirds and other migratory birds. (11)

Neonics have been found in over 90% of pregnant women, and may increase risk of abnormal development, including heart defects and neurologic problems such as memory loss and tremors. (12)

(1) Bee Informed Partnership. National Management Survey. Total Annual Losses by State

(2) The value of birds and bees. Farmers.gov.

(3) Insecticides similar to nicotine found in about half of sampled streams across the United States: U.S. geological survey.

Insecticides Similar to Nicotine Found in about Half of Sampled Streams across the United States | U.S. Geological Survey.

(4) Data show increasing insecticide levels in Minnesota deer. MPR News.

(5) Prenatal and infant exposure to ambient pesticides and autism spectrum disorder in children: population based case-control study. BMJ

(6) Lennard Pisa et al., An Update of the Worldwide Integrated Assessment (WIA) on Systemic Insecticides, Env'tl. Sci. Pollution Research Int'l (Nov. 9, 2017); Thomas Wood & Dave Goulson, The Environmental Risks of Neonicotinoid Pesticides, Env'tl. Sci. Pollution Research Int'l (Jun. 7, 2017); Daniel Cressey, Largest-ever Study of Controversial Pesticides Finds Harm to Bees, Nature (Jun. 29, 2017); Travis A. Grout et al., Neonicotinoid Insecticides in New York State, Cornell University (June 23, 2020)

(7) Bee-killing 'neonic' pesticides may also harm children's health. EWG

(8) Francisco Sanchez-Bayo, 2016. Contamination of the Aquatic Environment with Neonicotinoids and its Implication for Ecosystems; Frontiers in Environmental Science

(9) Nemi Malhotra et al, 2021. Physiological Effects of Neonic Insecticides on Non-Target Aquatic Animals, International Journal of Molecular Sciences

(10) Schmidt et al., Ecological Consequences of Neonicotinoid Mixtures in Streams, Sci. Adv. 8 (2022).

(11) Bienkowski, Brian. 2019. Common insecticide threatens survival of wild, migrating birds. EHN

(12) Andria Cimino et al., Effects of Neonicotinoid Pesticide Exposure on Human Health: A Systematic Review, 125 Env'tl. Health Perspectives at 155-162 (2017)

PASS AB 162: ELIMINATES ALL NON- AGRICULTURAL USE OF NEONIC PESTICIDES ON OUTDOOR PLANTS

The states of Connecticut, Maryland, and Vermont have all passed laws restricting consumer use of bee-toxic neonics in favor of less toxic alternative products and practices.

