

THE IMPACT OF NEONICOTINOIDS ON HONEY BEES



LWVMN Briefing Paper

Severe honey bee declines have been noted on every continent, and hundreds of species of pollinators are now near extinction.

The widespread use of neonicotinoids (a class of systemic, neurotoxic insecticides) are harming the health of honey bees and pollinators worldwide.

Not only are the chemicals affecting the bees' survival, they have also been found in the majority of streams across the U.S., and in an alarming number of fruits, vegetables, and grains.

Bees and pollinators are responsible for the reproduction of **90%** of all flowering plants on earth

Neonicotinoids, a powerful neurotoxic insecticide used as a seed coating, is found in **94%** of corn and **30% of soy** in the U.S.

Pollinators are responsible for every **3rd** bite of food we eat, our plant-based medicines and wildlife habitats

Pollinators contribute over **\$24** billion annually to the U.S. economy

95% of neonicotinoid seed coatings disperse into air, water and soil

Legislative Support Action:

1. Restrict or suspend the use of neonicotinoids in Minnesota
2. Support farmers to transition away from neonicotinoid coated seeds
3. Restore the 2014 "nursery labeling law"
4. Increase pollinator habitat

Support H.R. 1284 - Saving America's Pollinators Act of 2015



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MINNESOTA

bees@lwvmn.org
www.lwvmnbees.org