

Stimati membrii si colaboratori AMSEM,

Va transmitem Informatiile primite de la Asociatia Europeana a Semintelor - ESA cu privire la evenimentele recente legate de autorizarea utilizarii pesticidelor din grupa neonicotinoidelor la tratamentul semintelor. Atasat sunt prezentate si rapoartele EFSA (EU) si ANSES (FR), comunicatul de presa al Ministrului francez al Agriculturii Le Foll si un punct de vedere al ESA. Aceste aspecte urmeaza sa fie discutate si in cadrul Comisiei Europene DG Sanco . Daca detineti date privind punctul de vedere al ESA va rugam sa le comunicati la ESA si in paralel si la AMSEM.

Cu stima,

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Fișiere atașate:

- [Overview on seed CN1 treatments per crop and possible exposure to bees](#)
- [EFSA - Statement on the findings in recent studies investigating sub-lethal effects in bees of some neonicotinoids in consideration of the uses currently authorised in Europe](#)
- [ANSES - AVIS de l'Agence nationale de sécurité sanitaire de l'alimentation, de l'environnement et du travail relatif à une demande d'appui scientifique et technique dans la perspective de la publication de l'article "A common pesticide decreases foraging](#)
- [Déclaration du ministre au sujet de l'avis de l'ANSES / Cruiser le 1er juin 2012](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Garlich von Essen** <vonEssen@euroseeds.org>

Date: 2012/6/5

Subject: ESA-Info: Possible regulatory action on authorisation of neonicotinoids for seed treatment in OSR and other speciers on French and EU level

ESA-INFO:

To:

- ESA Association Members
- ESA Individual Members

- ESA Associate Members

Possible regulatory action on authorisation of neonicotinoids for seed treatment in OSR and other species on French and EU level

Dear Members,

Following a publication of new studies on bee health and a possible relation to the use of neonicotinoids in the magazine 'Science' some months ago, both EFSA (European Food Safety Authority) and ANSES (French Safety Authority) started their own investigations in the subject matter and scrutinized the new information.

Both authorities published their reports on Friday last week and you can find their respective information at

- esa_12.0367: EFSA Statement
- esa_12.0368: ANSES Statement (FR)

While both authorities come to the conclusion that the results of the study published in 'Science' were raising some concerns, they also both underline that some parts of the experimental set-up were questionable (e.g., bees had been exposed to dosages which were much, much higher than ever observed under any real practical field conditions) and that some of the results were inconclusive (differences between results on bees and bumble bee etc.).

Still, the new French Agriculture Minister Le Foll immediately announced at a Press Conference that he has the intention to withdraw the French authorisation for OSR seed treatment with 'Cruiser'. As many of you will recall, this dossier has always been a highly politicised one in France and that the authorisation for treatment of OSR with Cruiser had only been granted a good year ago.

Moreover. The French Minister called upon the European Commission to consider withdrawing and/or limiting the authorisations of all neonicotinoids (also known as CNIs) on EU level and here also specifically their use as seed treatments in view of their possible contribution to the decline of bee populations. For the text (in FR), please see

- esa_12.0370

ESA as well as ECPA (European Crop Protection Association) were approached by the EU Commission's responsible Directorate General SANCO on Friday, 31.5. with a request to supply specific data on the use of CNIs per crop on EU level, the share of CNI treated seed and possible alternative crop protection solutions in case CNIs would no longer be available.

Attached (v. ESA_12.0363) you will find the information compiled by ESA STAT and supplied by ESA to the European Commission yesterday night. This information has also been verified and shared with ECPA.

Today, DG SANCO has been asked for a briefing of Commissioner Dalli and on Thursday, an extraordinary meeting of the Standing Committee on Plant Protection products has been scheduled where this issue is the sole item on the agenda.

It is important to underline the following:

- Given the political nature of the dossier in France, it must be expected that Cruiser OSR will be taken off the market for France; this decision may be taken unilaterally by France and could come any day
- A general review of all CNIs based on an EU decision is unlikely to be agreed as the supporting data is much too limited and as there are only very limited alternatives available (and as these –generally speaking- are not necessarily environmentally friendly crop protection options)
- ESA and ECPA will continue to supply information to the Commission as well as to Member States on our interpretation of the study/studies, the importance of suitable crop protection options for EU farming and our conviction that seed treatment generally and also specifically in the area of CNIs is an excellent and safe tool, provided application is taking place in line with standard good practices.

We would like to call upon Association Members to make use of the attached information in their possible bilateral contacts to representatives of national Ministries that attend meetings of the Standing Committee on PPPs; where possible, you may want to specific data even further in view of your individual country.

We should also underline that a decision against CNI treatment, depending also on when it is taken, may have significant effect on the availability of seed of important varieties, the future quantity and quality of the crop and with that of farmers' income and with that on the competitiveness of the agricultural sector; but foremost, it is important to assure that the EFSA opinion with its request for a more realistic study is being supported as a way to verify or falsify the findings as published in

science.

In case you have any further question on the dossier, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat.

We will keep members updated on the issue as we move forward.

With best regards,

Garlich von Essen
Secretary General

