



- Petitioning Premier Kathleen Wynne

Save Ontario's bees: ban the use of neonicotinoid pesticides

Petition by

[The Ontario Beekeepers' Association](#)

Ontario's bees are dying in massive numbers due to the pervasive use of neonicotinoid pesticides on our agricultural field crops. **Fully a third of our food relies on pollinators: without bees, Ontario's food supply could be in serious trouble.** Further, these chemicals leach into soils, groundwater and waterways, and can persist for years, killing not only bees, but other pollinators, aquatic insects, amphibians and birds.

We already have sufficient evidence to prove that neonicotinoid pesticides are killing our bees. Canada's Pesticide Management Regulatory Agency has confirmed that last year's

widespread bee deaths in Ontario were caused by neonicotinoid pesticides. As well, dozens of independent, peer reviewed scientific research studies have concluded that these pesticides pose a significant threat to bees and other wildlife. Furthermore, science and experience has shown that neonicotinoids don't really increase agricultural yield in the long run.

Join Ontario's beekeepers and their agricultural, environmental and scientific partners in urging Premier Wynne to ban neonicotinoid pesticides in time for the 2014 planting season.

Ontario's bees are in unprecedented peril. **In the past two years alone, Ontario has seen a 35% decline in honey bees.** The time for urgent, precautionary action is now.

Sign this petition and share with everyone.

For information on the science behind our position: [OBA BeeCause](#)

To:

Premier Kathleen Wynne

I am asking you to immediately ban the use of neonicotinoid pesticides in Ontario.

Last year, extensive losses of honey bees and other pollinators associated with the application of these toxic pesticides to field crops in Ontario were documented by Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency. Continued high rates of bee kills have been observed and reported this spring as well.

The continued use of these pesticides destroys bees, other pollinators, aquatic insects, amphibians and birds, threatens our food supply, contaminates our water and creates persistent buildup of toxins in our soil.

On April 29, 2013 after reviewing more than 30 different studies, the European Union suspended the use of these pesticides. We do not need additional research to prove the harmful effects of neonicotinoid pesticides. We need to follow the EU's example.

I am asking you to act now.

Sincerely,

[Your name]