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WILLIAM H. GATHERCOLE AND NOR | [+ Follow replies to my comments](#)

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WILLIAM H. GATHERCOLE AND NOR Less than a minute ago



NORAHG RESPONDS BY SAYING CRISIS ? WHAT CRISIS ?

There is NO bee crisis in Canada. And there is NO bee crisis in Ontario. According to Ontario Premier Wynne — « Although large bee die-offs have been observed in Ontario apiaries, they are NOT OCCURRING UNIFORMLY across all operations or areas of the province — many bee-keeping operations HAVE NOT BEEN AFFECTED and have been able to maintain strong and healthy bee colonies as evidenced by hive strength and honey production ». <http://wp.me/p1jq40-7Mw> Pesticides are NOT contributing to losses alleged by a small minority of bee-keepers. There is NO bee crisis in Canada. Only A VERY LIMITED NUMBER of bee-keepers report losses due to so-called bee colony collapse disorder, LESS THAN 1 PER CENT. In 2012, a mere 42 bee-keepers alleged losses. In 2013, only 74 bee-keepers alleged losses. There are 7,000 bee-keepers keeping 600,000 colonies of honeybees across Canada. Essentially, a mere 0.5 to 1.0 per cent of all bee-keepers are reporting losses. These represent the anti-pesticide bee-keepers who strive to profit from government hand-outs. Over 99 per cent of all bee-keepers are reporting NO losses. Less than 1 per cent of bee-keepers have no idea what they are doing, leading some observers to conclude that these bee-keepers may not be competent to raise bees, and certainly know almost nothing about pest control products. Bee-keepers know full well that varroa mites are the primary problem associated with losses, and not neonicotinoid insecticides. Science and statistics DO NOT SUPPORT demands to prohibit against neonicotinoid insecticides in agriculture. If we had less conventional neonicotinoid use in the environment, we would still have bee colony collapse disorder, because many bee-keepers are not competent to manage their hives. For more information regarding BEES, go to The Pesticide Truths Web-Site ... <http://wp.me/p1jq40-6WJ> <http://wp.me/P1jq40-2BA> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-6H8> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-7ty> NORAHG is the National Organization Responding Against HUJE that seek to harm the Green space industry. WILLIAM H. GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G. Get the latest details at The Pesticide Truths Web-Site <http://pesticidetruths.com/> and go to The Complete Library Of Web-Pages, Reports, & References <http://wp.me/P1jq40-2rr>

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JulieW 8 hours ago



Liberals keep their promise! Properly executed, this will make a huge difference to bees and beekeepers in Ontario. Hurrah for not capitulating to corporate interests.

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WillHop 7 hours ago

+7

Good on Ontario. While I no longer live there I note that Ontario has shown great leadership in:

tackling the bee issue
providing healthcare to refugee claimants (which just makes good economic sense)
rescuing the experimental lakes program

Now I wonder who has not shown the same foresight?

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David Gibson 4 hours ago

+6

I have recently told a few people I know that I have no seen a single honey bee this year, which is very unusual. I found one bumble bee, dead.

If anyone does not grasp the importance of bees, they might grasp it if local apples hit \$14.00 per pound.

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Enzo25 6 hours ago

+6

It's great to see some leadership on this issue.

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XKR 7 hours ago

+5

Its about time, although possibly too little too late.

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Pgnman 9 hours ago

+5

Driving down a back road this morning, just out side of Delhi behind the research station. A melon field had beehives in the treeline bordering the field. The farmer was spraying the field with what can only be a pesticide as a herbicide would surely kill the crop. Breezy morning too should be lots of drift. Not thinking or perhaps the hives were props.

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JDtor 8 hours ago

+4

More proof the electing a liberal gov't under Wynne is the best thing for Ontario.

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Whiterock 4 hours ago

+3

A restriction is not the same as a ban! These chemicals must be banned outright. You may not have noticed but DDT is now in use again.

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WILLIAM H. GATHERCOLE AND NOR Less than a minute ago



There is NO comparison between Neonicotinoids and DDT ! Anti-pesticide bee-keepers are merely blurting out statements that are designed to inflame and infuriate a hapless public as they seek arbitrary and ineffectual prohibition. Any prohibition against pest control products is not necessary. Here are the facts. Between April and June 2012, Health Canada received a VERY LIMITED NUMBER of reports of bee losses from across southern Ontario, involving a mere 40 bee-keepers, as well as 1 report from Quebec. At present there are 2,900 bee-keepers in Ontario, therefore, the affected bee-keepers represent less than 1.5 per cent of all bee-keepers in Ontario. The information evaluated to date suggests that insecticides used on treated corn seeds contributed to many of the bee losses. Health Canada has issued a document entitled reducing risk from treated seeds which recommends Best Management Practices for corn growers. This document is archived on The Pesticide Truths Web-Site. <http://wp.me/P1jq40-2BA> Additionally, in 2013, Health Canada will assess how well the Best Management Practices are working. Overall, there is no evidence to suggest a link between insecticides called neonicotinoids and bee losses, or bee colony collapse disorder. Overall, neonicotinoid insecticides do not harm bees. It is far more likely that bee-keepers themselves are harming bees, and not neonicotinoid insecticides. When used properly by growers, with Best Management Practices, neonicotinoid insecticides cause no harm, and do not hurt bees. <http://wp.me/P1jq40-2BA> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-6H8> Furthermore, DDT did NOT cause harm to bees, but its removal has KILLED MILLIONS OF PEOPLE. Since the removal of DDT, it has been estimated that thirty to fifty million people have died unnecessarily from the effects of malaria. Sadly, removing DDT has KILLED MORE PEOPLE THAN HITLER. Before the removal of DDT, malaria had become almost a minor illness, with only fifty thousand deaths per year throughout the world. In 1972, according to the Administrative Judge of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, DDT does NOT have a deleterious effect on freshwater fish, estuarine organisms, wild birds, or other wildlife. <http://wp.me/P1jq40-115> Bee-keepers should find another argument to validate prohibition. For The Whole Truth, go to The Pesticide Truths Web-Site ... <http://wp.me/p1jq40-2ba> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-6WJ> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-6H8> NORAHG is the National Organization Responding Against HUJE that seek to destroy the Green space industry. WILLIAM H. GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G. Get the latest details at The Pesticide Truths Web-Site <http://pesticidetruths.com/> and go to The Complete Library Of Web-Pages, Reports, & References <http://wp.me/P1jq40-2rr>

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Hound38 9 hours ago

+2

Not the best written article - lots of ambiguities in it.

My grandparents used to have hives on their farm to ensure pollination of crops as well as provide a bit of a side business - losing 1 in the 8 over the winter was normal and new queens often came in and took over the vacant hives in the summer, so they were pretty much self perpetuating.

I would have thought that controlled experiments (even looking at the results in Europe with the farmland that has banned the pesticides containing neonicotinoids should give a pretty conclusive answer very quickly. Similarly, studying hives that do not seem affected could show a new bee strain that has adapted to the neonicotinoids. Why isn't more concrete science being done and, if it is, why isn't it being more widely reported?

I could facetiously point to Jerry Seinfeld's "Bee Movie" to show what an environmental disaster this is, but hopefully people realize the importance of bees (and other insect pollinators) to the food system.

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Sunseeker 4 hours ago

+1

There has to be a lot of truth to these concerns. I took home some flowering plants from Home Depot this morning, and found five dying honey bees on my patio a few hours later. Using these poisons is criminal.

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professor_x 2 hours ago

0

If we read the article carefully, the complaint seems to be the losses of bees have increased in the winter.

That tells me it's not the spring planting of corn.

If the losses were due to dust kicked up from pesticide treated seed during the spring planting of corn, then the bees would die immediately not in the winter.

If they are saying it's residual toxicity - then how to explain the canola spraying in Western Canada.

My experience is that pesticide toxicity especially with water soluble pesticides remains for a only short periods of time between rainfalls.

There may be other explanations - loss of habitat is more likely.

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professor_x 4 hours ago

-3  

Neonicotinoid on seeds is not a high risk to bees. Bees wouldn't ordinarily venture into a bare field, as there would be no food sources for them there.

Dust from these planters doesn't seem a plausible explanation either - as we would expect to see the same impact on all insect species.

Neonicotinoids do not have a selective impact on nectar foraging species of insect.

I see plenty of bees in my garden and they were present in the orchard as well. Butterflies too. If there are food sources for them, they show up.

Killing caterpillars is the point of insecticides.

How many people commenting that they never see a bee live in a subdivision or downtown Toronto? Gee bees don't want to live in a subdivision - must be the neonicotinoids.

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