

Provincial News: Liberals 'cherry pick' science on neonics, ignore Health Canada findings

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Health Canada study determines seed treatment with neonic poses no risks to bees

QUEEN'S PARK –The Liberal Environment Minister is cherry picking science to support the government's neonic ban while ignoring the findings released by environmental experts and regulators in both Canada and the United States, which show the use of a certain pesticide for seed treatment poses no potential risks to bees, Huron-Bruce MPP Lisa Thompson said today.

"Will the Minister – who is not a scientist – please explain why he thinks he knows better than a team of scientific experts at Health Canada and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency?" Thompson asked Mr. Murray in question period.

The Environment Minister responded, saying, "You don't cherry pick science," even though the Liberal government will not acknowledge the findings of a joint report released earlier this year by Health Canada's Pest Management

Regulatory Agency, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the State of California. The report found that the neonicotinoid, imidacloprid, poses no potential risks to bees.

“When presented with scientific evidence released by Health Canada that challenges the foundation of this Minister’s neonic ban, he has chosen to ignore the facts,” Thompson said. “The Minister’s refusal to review this evidence is frankly anti-science.”

The Ontario PC Caucus has long advocated for a science-based approach to neonicotinoids. Instead, the government has taken a heavy-handed approach with the agricultural sector by implementing its neonics regulation, which reduces neonic use, including the use of imidacloprid, by 80% despite the findings of Health Canada’s report.

To watch MPP Thompson’s question, click on the following link: <http://tinyurl.com/jfqIt9m>.

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Footnote: [Ontario PC Party](#)

THERE IS NO BEE CRISIS, AND PROHIBITION IS NOT NECESSARY !

For a few years now, the idea that bees are being lost at an alarming rate, and that somehow agricultural insecticides have something to do with it. THIS IS FALSE ! Some media reports have actually defined this idea as an « ECO-SCAM ». Of course, David Suzuki has been fund-raising to « fight » the situation — except bee losses ARE NOT REALLY HAPPENING, any more than global warming. <http://wp.me/p1jq40-92p>

Overall, there is NO bee crisis in Ontario because of neonicotinoid insecticides, and hence, their prohibition in agriculture is NOT necessary ! This #@!!% bee-keeper madness must be challenged and stopped ! In Ontario, there is now NO other recourse but litigation against government officials and pesticide-blaming bee-keepers in order to STOP THEM from destroying the agriculture industry. CropLife Canada, Grain Farmers of

Ontario, and all agricultural businesses, MUST SUE the neonicotinoid-hating fanatics' brains' out ! <http://wp.me/p1jq40-7Ub>

In its usual method of arriving at scientifically illiterate conclusions, the Ontario Liberal government has agreed with some pesticide-blaming bee-keepers that the use neonicotinoid insecticides has somehow been responsible for the loss of their bees. Since 2009, Ontario's reckless attitude against any and all pest control products has already destroyed the professional lawn care industry ! <http://wp.me/P1jq40-43B> The destruction of the professional lawn care industry was extensive because there were/are NO valid economical alternatives to replace the prohibited products that were desperately need to control damaging pests of turf and ornamental plants. <http://wp.me/P1jq40-24g> Similarly, Ontario's agriculture industry WILL BE facing imminent destruction since neonicotinoid insecticides are desperately needed to effectively and safely control damaging pests of crops. Ontario's reckless anti-pesticide prohibition will destroy the agriculture industry !

The province's prohibition is being imposed after bee-keepers started reporting an increasing number of bee deaths ?!?! Really ?!?! The media is reporting this situation as if ALL bee-keepers are affected. THIS IS FALSE !

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 43 bee-keepers alleged losses. In 2013, only 82 bee-keepers alleged losses. There are 7,000 bee-keepers keeping 600,000 colonies of honeybees across Canada. Essentially, a mere 1.0 per cent of all bee-keepers are reporting losses. These represent the insecticide-blaming bee-keepers who are merely striving to profit from government hand-outs. Over 99 per cent of all bee-keepers are reporting NO losses. 1 per cent of bee-keepers appear to 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 agricultural insecticides. 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. Prohibition will not save bees.

<http://tinyurl.com/pxqzh6m>

Neonicotinoid insecticides used on the VAST MAJORITY of agricultural crops WILL NOT harm pollinators. On January 5th, 2016, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) and the U.S. Environmental

Protection Agency (EPA) released their preliminary assessments, both of which show A LIMITED NUMBER of situations where some neonicotinoid insecticides pose risk to pollinators. <http://wp.me/p1jq40-99l>
<http://wp.me/p1jq40-9eb> According to this risk assessment of a neonicotinoid insecticide, imidacloprid, label directions and rules for foliar and seed treatments of imidacloprid should either PREVENT or LIMIT the risks to honeybees and other pollinators. The EPA data also showed that citrus and cotton may have residues of the insecticide in pollen and nectar above the threshold level of 25 parts per billion, above which effects on pollinator hives were likely to be seen. In North America, citrus fruits for consumption as fresh fruit are mainly grown in California, Arizona, and Texas. Cotton is grown in the southern United States. Citrus and cotton are NOT grown as crops in most of North America. Overall, neonicotinoid insecticides are used in a way that MINIMIZES any direct exposure to bees, such as seed treatment. Seed treatment insecticides have been used for a decade with almost NO incidences of negative impacts on bees by minimizing potential exposures of non-target insects such as bees. Under normal field use of neonicotinoid insecticides, the exposure to bees is at very low levels, far too low to cause harmful effects.

Why are a small number of bee-keepers alleging the loss of bees, even OUTSIDE of situations where some neonicotinoid insecticides pose risk to pollinators ?!?! The real culprits who harm bees are actually the bee-keepers themselves ! Bee losses are, in fact, the fault of the bee-keepers and their mis-management practices. THEY are responsible, and NOT neonicotinoid insecticides. Why are only a very limited number of bee-keepers affected ?!?! Because they represent the unproficient bee-keepers with their senseless management practices. These bee-keepers kill their own bees, and not neonicotinoid insecticides. It is inescapable that the allegations against neonicotinoid insecticides are FALSE ! Even Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne has stated that there is NO bee crisis, since the vast majority of 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://tinyurl.com/ndavhaa> Skilled bee-keepers readily admit that poor hive management (i.e. starvation, weak colonies, fungal infections, and mite infestations) and weather are most likely to blame for bee losses. Starvation is biggest single cause of bee losses ! <http://wp.me/p1jq40-97E> Unproficient bee-keepers falsely blame their bee losses on neonicotinoid insecticide, and believe that they are entitled to unjustifiable government compensation. When will this bee-keeper madness end ?!?! Why don't government inspectors and specialists investigate the killing of bees by bee-keepers ?!?! Ontario bee-keepers who lose their bees over and over again without changing their management practices can only be described as senseless and unproficient.

So, what is REALLY happening !?! The main factor that contributes to so-called bee colony collapse disorder is bee-keeper madness. According to Albert Einstein, the definition of madness is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. What is the definition of bee-keeper madness !?! Here is an example. In the province of Ontario, bee-keepers allege having lost nearly 38 per cent of their bees winter 2014-2015, a rate that was more than three times the national average of other provinces. Seemingly, Ontario bee-keepers are losing their bees over and over again. Why is this madness happening !?! Observers have concluded that many Ontario bee-keepers have no idea what they are doing, and are simply not skilled to raise bees. Ontario bee-keepers are killing their own bees over and over again. The alleged losses of bees are, in fact, the fault of these bee-keepers and their mis-management practices. They are responsible since they appear to be unable or unwilling or not skilled enough to mitigate the real issues that harm bees. They prefer to remain unproficient at bee-keeping, and expect the government to shower them with vast sums of unjustifiable compensation. <http://tinyurl.com/l8odbpc>
<http://wp.me/p1jq40-77N> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-7VI>

There is NO bee crisis ! The honeybee industry is actually thriving in Ontario and around the world. The Ontario honeybee industry is thriving. The Canadian honeybee industry is thriving — Canada's honey yield is twice the world's average. The North American honeybee industry is thriving. The European honeybee industry is thriving — neonicotinoid insecticides were still being used in 2013, and yet, 2013 was the lowest European bee loss recorded since 2007. There is NO bee crisis, and prohibition is NOT necessary ! (See links below.)

We are the National Organization Responding Against HUE that conspire to destroy the Green space and other industries (NORAH G). As a non-profit and independent organization, we are environmentalists who are dedicated to reporting about NON-EXPERT PESTICIDE-HATING FANATICS, as well as the work of RESPECTED and HIGHLY RATED EXPERTS who promote ENVIRONMENTAL REALISM and PESTICIDE TRUTHS. <http://wp.me/p1jq40-8DV> Get the latest details at <http://pesticidetruths.com/> WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G

THERE IS NO BEE CRISIS (LINKS) —

<http://pesticidetruths.com/2014/02/03/little-wolf-apiaries-walter-zimmerman-bee-hives-thriving-beekeepers-call-for-a-pesticide-ban-ontario-today-cbc-player/>

<http://pesticidetruths.com/2014/11/05/2014-bee-fraud-awards-ontario-bee-business-booming-but-were-suing-manufacturers-anyhow-peter-dickey-honey-ontario-beekeepers-association/>

<http://pesticidetruths.com/2013/10/17/28297/>

<http://pesticidetruths.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/Force-Of-Nature-Myth-BUSTING-Bee-Colony-Collapse-Disorder-2013-09-16-Canada's-Honey-Yield-Is-TWICE-The-World's-Average-pdf-300-dpi1.pdf>

<http://pesticidetruths.com/2014/08/02/the-myths-of-bee-colony-collapse-syndrome-fewer-bees-or-just-more-bee-s-tobacco-ringspot-virus-neonicotinoid-insecticides-do-not-harm-bees-dr-elizabeth-m-whelan-american-council/>

<http://pesticidetruths.com/2014/08/13/neonic-pesticides-were-still-being-used-in-2013-2013-was-lowest-european-bee-loss-recorded-since-2007/>

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/217858259/April-2014-EU-Bee-Health-Q-and-a-Bees-Thriving-MEMO-14-260-EN-1>