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The advertisement banner features the Boston Pizza logo on the left, followed by the text 'THE BIG BUNDLE' and 'FOUR CAN DINE FOR \$39.99' in large, bold letters. To the right, it says 'TRY THE BIG BUNDLE TODAY' with a red arrow pointing towards a photograph of various pizza toppings and a whole pizza.

NEWS LOCAL

BEE DEATHS: Sessions 'diluted,' says grain agency leader

Farmers boycott pesticide forums

Free Press staff
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The organization representing Ontario's 28,000 corn, soybean and wheat farmers is asking its members to boycott upcoming provincial forums on a controversial pesticide blamed for bee deaths.

The Pollinator Consultation forums, organized by the Ontario government, are to start next week with a session in London on Tuesday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Southwestern Ontario, home to the province's largest farm belt, is a major field crop producer — with the use of neonicotinoid pesticides a hot topic for many.

Ontario's Liberal government, citing a finding by a federal agency that there's a link between bee deaths in Ontario and corn and soybean seeds treated with so-called neonics, has set a target to dramatically reduce the number of hectares planted with the treated seed by 80% by 2017.

That's sparked a backlash by the Grain Farmers of Ontario, which argues the near-ban isn't thought out and will have serious negative effects on farmers and the environment.

Similar debates are raging elsewhere in North America.

In a notice to members, Grain Farmers of Ontario president Henry Van Ankum said the organization won't take part in the consultations in London, Toronto and Kingston.

"As farmers and primary stakeholders in this regulation, it is not appropriate for the government to receive our input in public forums — our input is far too important to be diluted at urban venues by non-stakeholders,"

Van Ankum said.

"We advise farmer members to refrain from participation at these venues as well," he wrote.

Instead, the organization will provide a response at a separate forum for the agriculture industry, he said.

Anyone who wants to attend the public forum is required to register in advance.

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ABOUT NEONICS

- Common family of pesticides, typically applied as a seed coating.
- Protect plants from insects.
- Blamed by many for bee die-offs, which pesticide industry rejects.
- Banned in Europe, under growing scrutiny in Canada.
- Ontario wants to sharply reduce neonic-treated crops.

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**Norah G Fon** • 7 minutes ago Hold on, this is waiting to be approved by Stratford Beacon Herald.

NORAHG OPPOSES THE ONTARIO PROPOSAL THAT WILL INEVITABLY DESTROY THE AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY — THIS ARBITRARY PROHIBITION MUST BE STOPPED, FOREVER !

On November 25th, 2014, the anti-pesticide Ontario Liberal government proposed an 80 per cent reduction in the number of agricultural hectares planted with seed treated with neonicotinoid insecticides. <http://tinyurl.com/o3tf4sv> In essence, this proposal represents a thinly-veiled prohibition, the very same kind of reckless and arbitrary legislation that has already destroyed Ontario's professional lawn care industry. Since 2009, the carnage caused by this prohibition against so-called cosmetic pesticides has inflicted business destruction and business failures. Because of Ontario's 2009 provincial prohibition, businesses operating in the professional lawn care industry have LOST OVER 500,000,000 DOLLARS, with up to 12,500 UNEMPLOYED. <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 is facing destruction since neonicotinoid insecticides are desperately needed to effectively and safely control damaging pests of crops. The anti-pesticide Ontario Liberal government is falsely alleging that neonicotinoid insecticides are the cause of so-called bee colony collapse disorder — in fact, bee losses occur because some bee-keepers may be wholly unsuited to be raising bees. Overall, there is NO bee crisis in Ontario because of insecticides, and ANY prohibition is NOT necessary ! The Ontario Liberal government, and bee conspiracy terrorists, are NOT credible sources of real scientific information upon which this political decision about prohibition can be made. It is inescapable that the allegations against neonicotinoid insecticides are FALSE ! If we had less conventional neonicotinoid use in Ontario, we would still have bee colony collapse disorder, because many bee-keepers are NOT competent to manage their hives. There is NO other recourse but litigation and complaints ! CropLife Canada, Grain Farmers of Ontario, and all agricultural businesses, must sue the anti-neonicotinoid SOBs' brains out ! They must stop the proposed prohibition in Ontario, whatever the cost may be ! They must demand that the proposed prohibition be stopped, forever. For more information, go to The Pesticide Truths Web-Site ... <http://wp.me/p1jq40-8FZ> We are the National Organization Responding Against HUJE that seek to destroy the Green space and other industries (NORAH G). Get the latest details at <http://pesticidetruths.com/> <http://pesticidetruths.com/toc...> <http://wp.me/P1jq40-2rr> <https://www.facebook.com/norah...> WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G

SUE THE SOBs' BRAINS OUT ! (Blog)

<http://pesticidetruths.com/201...>

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**Barkus_too** • 3 hours ago

There goes my perception of farmers as stewards of the land and environment. They have become the front line soldiers of corporate greed ahead of sustainability.

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**Norah G Fon**  Barkus_too • a few seconds ago

Really ?!?! That is a very very silly left-wing conspiracy theory that recklessly demonizes an agriculture industry whose businesses barely break-even. The TRUE CORPORATE GREED is among bee conspiracy terrorists and bee-keepers who stand to BENEFIT SIGNIFICANTLY from this proposed government action. Consequently, observers demand that anti-neonicotinoid organizations operated by so-called environmentalists and bee-keepers be STRIPPED of their charity tax-exempt status.

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