

Alberta Farmer

EXPRESS

Court rejects Ont. growers' bid for stay on neonic regs

By [Staff](#)

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Western corn rootworm larvae. (Scott Bauer photo courtesy ARS/USDA)

The association for Ontario corn and soybean growers is “evaluating several options” after its request for a stay of the province’s new limits on neonicotinoid seed treatments was rejected.

The Ontario Superior Court denied the request from Grain Farmers of Ontario (GFO) for a stay and interpretation on the neonic regulations, which became law in July.

If a stay had been granted, the regulations would have been subject to further review, according to GFO in August.

GFO had asked the court to delay implementation of the regulation until May 1, 2016, or “such time as the requirements of the regulation can reasonably be met.”

“We are extremely disappointed that the judge did not rule in our favour, leaving the grain industry in a very difficult situation as farmers try to arrange seed orders this fall,” GFO chair Mark Brock said in a release Friday.

The association, he said, is “currently reviewing our legal options and will continue to protect the rights of Ontario’s grain farmers.”

Ahead of its court hearing on Sept. 28, GFO emphasized to its corn- and soy-growing membership that the new neonic regulations are still law, and farmers will “need to educate themselves on compliance.”

Pest assessment

The new neonic regulations were set up this summer to meet the province’s stated target of reducing use of neonicotinoid-treated corn and soybean seed by 80 per cent by 2017, allowing the pesticide-treated seed to be used “only when there is a demonstrated pest problem.”

The regulations set up the neonics — imidacloprid, thiamethoxam and clothianidin — in a new pesticide class, Class 12.

Between now and the end of August 2016, any Ontario corn or soy grower wanting to plant Class 12-treated seed on more than 50 per cent of his or her acres must complete a soil inspection pest assessment report.

After August 2016, a corn and/or soy grower wanting to use any Class 12-treated seed at all must complete a pest assessment report and present his or her certificate in integrated pest management (IPM) training. The province is picking up the tab for IPM classes until September next year.

Pest assessments beyond August 2016 must be done either via a soil inspection by an IPM-certified grower or professional pest advisor, or via a crop inspection by a professional advisor.

Ontario set up its neonic regs citing evidence that the Class 12 pesticides are “highly toxic to honeybees and other beneficial insects,” and could also harm aquatic insects if they run off soils into nearby watercourses. — *AGCanada.com Network*

NORAHG RESPONSE

Ontario's neonicotinoid-hating government is FALSELY ALLEGING that neonicotinoid insecticides must be PROHIBITED because they are the cause of so-called bee colony collapse disorder — in fact, such bee losses occur because some bee-keepers may be wholly unsuited to be raising bees. This is the very same kind of reckless and arbitrary PROHIBITION that has already DESTROYED Ontario's professional lawn care industry, with businesses having LOST OVER 500,000,000 DOLLARS, with over 12,500 UNEMPLOYED since 2009. ONTARIO'S RECKLESS ANTI-PESTICIDE PROHIBITION 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 imminently facing 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 ! In their usual method of arriving at SCIENTIFICALLY ILLITERATE CONCLUSIONS, the Ontario Liberal government has agreed with some fanatical bee-keepers that the use neonicotinoid insecticides has somehow been responsible for the loss of their bees. Why are some bee-keepers losing their bees, while most are not ?!?! Observers have concluded that many bee-keepers have NO idea what they are doing, and are NOT competent to raise bees. 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 to mitigate issues that harm bees. This anti-neonicotinoid conspiracy is a mere PLOY to justify UNDESERVED GOVERNMENT COMPENSATION ! All you have to do is BE INCOMPETENT at bee-keeping, and the government will shower you with vast sums of liquid money. <http://tinyurl.com/l8odbpc> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-77N> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-7VI> In fact, the Canadian Honeybee Industry is actually THRIVING, with the total number of bee-keepers in Canada actually RISING DRAMATICALLY since 2008. <http://wp.me/p1jq40-8de> CANADA'S HONEY YIELD IS TWICE THE WORLD'S AVERAGE. <http://wp.me/s1jq40-28297> This #@!!% bee-keeper

insanity must be CHALLENGED AND STOPPED ! There is now no other recourse but LITIGATION against the Ontario Liberal government before it DESTROYS the agriculture industry. CropLife Canada, Grain Farmers of Ontario, and all agricultural businesses, MUST SUE Ontario's neonicotinoid-hating government's brains out ! For more information about LITIGATION, go to The Pesticide Truths Web-Site ... <http://wp.me/p1jq40-7Ub>