



According to Dr Lorne Hepworth ...

- A PROHIBITION against Neonicotinoid Insecticides would NOT solve bee health issues, but it would THREATEN THE ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF OUR FARMERS by removing an important tool from their tool boxes.
- Activist groups are BEHAVING RECKLESSLY in their quest to BAN ESSEN-TIAL TOOLS FROM FARMERS and, if successful, would CRIPPLE AGRICULTUR-AL PRODUCTION.
- Activist groups are either WOEFULLY MIS-INFORMED ABOUT THE HIGH LEVEL OF PRECAUTION ALREADY IN PLACE or, worse yet, is WILFULLY TRY-ING TO MIS-LEAD THE PUBLIC.
- Activist groups like the Sierra Club have NO KNOWN EXPERTISE IN BEE HEALTH OR AGRICULTURE.
- DEVASTATING IMPACTS on honey bee health occur because of *VARROA* MITES, DISEASE, and WEATHER.
- If Neonicotinoid Insecticides are PROHIBITED, a 500-acre farm could see a REDUCTION IN ITS REVENUES OF 65,000 DOLLARS PER YEAR.

- In AUSTRALIA, where farmers rely heavily on Neonicotinoid Insecticides, BEE POPULATIONS ARE FLOURISHING; it is also worth noting THERE ARE NO VARROA MITES IN AUSTRALIA.
- In Western Canada, more than 20 million acres of Canola is planted, the majority of which is treated with a Neonicotinoid Insecticide, and BEE HEALTH STILL REMAINS STRONG.
- In Western Canada, more than 20 million acres of Canola is planted, the majority of which is treated with a Neonicotinoid Insecticide, and BEE HEALTH STILL REMAINS STRONG.
- International researchers widely agree that BEE HEALTH IS IMPACTED BY A COMBINATION OF FACTORS, the PRIMARY one being VARROA MITES.
- Neonicotinoid-Treated-Seeds have been used in Canada for a decade WITH VERY FEW INCIDENTS.
- OTHER REGIONS OF THE WORLD THAT DO NOT USE NEONICOTINOID-TREATED-SEEDS ARE EXPERIENCING MAJOR BEE LOSSES, WHILE OTHER RE-GIONS THAT MAKE WIDE-SPREAD USE OF THESE INSECTICIDES HAVE HEALTHY, THRIVING BEE POPULATIONS.
- PROHIBITING Neonicotinoid Insecticides IS NOT THE ANSWER.
- The complexity of the issues facing bee health is, unfortunately, too frequently being overlooked in favour of an UNJUSTIFIABLE FOCUS ON INSEC-TICIDES.
- The most recent numbers from Statistics Canada show that BEE POPULA-TIONS IN THIS COUNTRY ARE NOT IN DECLINE.
- There is OVERWHELMING SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE demonstrating that Neonicotinoid residues are NOT A SIGNIFICANT FACTOR IN OVERALL BEE HEALTH DECLINE.
- While ISOLATED INCIDENTS of bee mortalities certainly need to be addressed, the reality is that managed honeybee colony numbers have been ON THE RISE for the last 20 years, according to Statistics Canada.
- Without Neonicotinoid Insecticides, FARMERS WOULD BE FORCED TO RE-TURN TO OLDER TECHNOLOGIES, LOSE MORE OF THEIR CROP TO INSECT DAMAGE, and MAYBE BE UNABLE TO GROW CERTAIN CROPS ALTOGETHER.



As the nation's most effective and consistent spokesman on the subject of public policy and pest control products, Dr Lorne Hepworth has effectively and consistently spoken out against activists and anti-pesticide prohibitions on a very frequent basis

There Is No Need For Neonicotinoid Ban
Neonicotinoid Ban Will Cripple Agricultural Production
Factors That Can Have A Devastating Impact On Bees
Woefully Mis-Informed Or Wilfully Mis-Leading
Wide Range Of Tools For Agricultural Production
Neonicotinoid Ban Is Not The Best Option
Bee Losses Exist Everywhere
The Need For Bees
Bee Losses Are Caused By A Combination Of Factors

FORCE OF NATURE | THE WHOLE TRUTH FROM AN INDEPENDENT PERSPECTIVE from National Organization Responding Against HUJE that seek to harm the Green Space Industry (NORAHG)

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There Is No Need For Neonicotinoid Ban

November 8th, 2013

Dr Lorne Hepworth

TheRecord.Com

Province Of Ontario

Selected And Adapted Excerpts



Dr Lorne Hepworth is president of CropLife Canada, the trade association representing manufacturers, developers and distributors of pest control products, including those designed specifically for agricultural and urban use.



Neonicotinoid Ban Will Cripple Agricultural Production

The Sierra Club Of Canada is CHERRY-PICKING INFORMATION that suits its viewpoint and RELYING ON MIS-TRUTHS AND EMOTIONS to try and have a Neonicotinoid Insecticide BAN imposed on Ontario farmers.

Meanwhile, activist groups like Sierra are also SUING the Minister Of Health and the Pest Management Regulatory Agency, asking for a BAN on 29 pesticides CRITICAL TO FOOD PRODUCTION.

These activist groups are BEHAVING RECKLESSLY in their guest to BAN ES-SENTIAL TOOLS FROM FARMERS and, if successful, would CRIPPLE AGRICUL-TURAL PRODUCTION in Canada.

Factors That Can Have A Devastating Impact On Bees

Anyone who truly cares about honey bee health knows there are a WHOLE HOST OF FACTORS that can and do pose a risk to these important insects.

VARROA MITES, DISEASE, and WEATHER, can all have DEVASTATING IM-PACTS on honey bee health.

Our industry, which is reliant on bees for our success, is encouraging regulators to take a broader, more holistic look at what may be causing bee losses.



Woefully Mis-Informed Or Wilfully Mis-Leading

When the Sierra Club encourages the use of « precautionary measures » it is either WOEFULLY MIS-INFORMED ABOUT THE HIGH LEVEL OF PRECAU-TION ALREADY IN PLACE or, worse yet, is WILFULLY TRYING TO MIS-LEAD THE PUBLIC.

In fact, Health Canada's Pest Control Products Act specifically references the role of the « precautionary measures » in the registration of pesticides.

The Sierra Club claims that no corn producers would be put out of business by even the highest predicted loss of crops. [?!?!]

Growers strive to increase yields, not just « stay in business ».

Wide Range Of Tools For Agricultural Production

Farmers rely on Integrated Pest Management Practices, which mean having access to a wide range of tools.

Only with the help of these tools can they continue to grow enough food to meet Canada's needs and feed a growing world population.

Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne has been steadfast in her support of SCI-**ENCE-BASED REGULATIONS.**

We are hopeful that Wynne will continue to collaborate with the industry to find meaningful, long-term solutions to bee health challenges.

Activist Groups Are
BEHAVING RECKLESSLY
In Their Quest To BAN
ESSENTIAL TOOLS
FROM FARMERS And,
If Successful, Would
CRIPPLE AGRICULTURAL
PRODUCTION In Canada



Neonicotinoid Ban Is Not The Best Option

August 30th, 2013

Dr Lorne Hepworth

Manitoba Cooperator

Province Of Manitoba

Selected And Adapted Excerpts



Dr Lorne Hepworth is president of CropLife Canada, the trade association representing manufacturers, developers and distributors of pest control products, including those designed specifically for agricultural and urban use.



Bee Losses Exist Everywhere

Regions that use NO Neonicotinoid Insecticides ARE STILL EXPERIENCING MAJOR BEE LOSSES, while others that make wide-spread use of the Neonicotinoid-Treated-Seeds HAVE HEALTHY AND THRIVING BEE POPULATIONS.

Bee health has been the subject of much media attention over the last year and rightly so.

The Need For Bees

Bees are a critical part of the agricultural system and largely responsible for one in every three bites of food we eat.

There are few who are more concerned about this issue than the manufacturers of pest control products, who depend heavily on bees to pollinate the crops their products are designed to protect.

Quite simply put, we as an industry absolutely NEED BEES IN ORDER TO THRIVE.

But, to focus the conversation about bee deaths solely on pesticides means LOSING AN OPPORTUNITY to address bee health in a fulsome and meaningful wav.



Bee Losses Are Caused By A Combination Of Factors

Here's what we know —

International researchers widely agree that BEE HEALTH IS IMPACTED BY A COMBINATION OF FACTORS, the PRIMARY one being the VARROA MITE.

In Western Canada, where more than 20 million acres of Canola is planted, the majority of which is treated with a Neonicotinoid Insecticide, and BEE HEALTH STILL REMAINS STRONG.

And Canola, unlike Corn, is a crop that bees feed heavily on.

Australia Bee Populations Are Flourishing

If we look at the rest of the world, there are regions that use NO Neonicotinoid Insecticides that are experiencing major bee losses, while others that make wide-spread use of these tools have healthy, thriving bee populations.

For example, in AUSTRALIA, where farmers rely heavily on Neonicotinoid Insecticides, BEE POPULATIONS ARE FLOURISHING.

It is also worth noting THERE ARE NOT ANY VARROA MITES IN AUSTRALIA.



Honeybee Numbers Are On The Rise

Groups like the Sierra Club have NO KNOWN EXPERTISE IN BEE HEALTH OR AGRICULTURE.

These groups have been RECKLESSLY calling for a BAN on Neonicotinoid Insecticides, saying they are to blame for bee population declines. [WRONG!]

While ISOLATED INCIDENTS of bee mortalities certainly need to be addressed, the reality is that managed honeybee colony numbers in this country have been ON THE RISE for the last 20 years, according to Statistics Canada.

Neonicotinoid Prohibition Threatens Our Farmers

A BAN on Neonicotinoid Insecticides would NOT solve bee health issues, but it would THREATEN THE ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF OUR FARMERS by removing an important tool from their tool boxes.

Without Neonicotinoid Insecticides, FARMERS WOULD BE FORCED TO RE-TURN TO OLDER TECHNOLOGIES, LOSE MORE OF THEIR CROP TO INSECT DAMAGE, and MAYBE BE UNABLE TO GROW CERTAIN CROPS ALTOGETHER.



Neonicotinoid Prohibition Threatens Our Farmers (cont)

One only need look at research from the University of Guelph that shows infestations of Wireworms and European Chafer Grubs in Corn crops can cause a three- to twenty-bushel-per-acre YIELD LOSS to see the POTENTIAL CON-SEQUENCES of not having access to Neonicotinoid Insecticides.

This means someone who farms 500 acres could see a REDUCTION IN THEIR REVENUES OF 65,000 DOLLARS A YEAR.

Benefits Of Neonicotinoid-Treated-Seeds

The BENEFIT of Neonicotinoid-Treated-Seeds is that the insecticide is applied directly to the seed, which is then planted in the ground.

This limits not only the quantity of pesticides used, but also the potential exposure of non-target organisms, such as bees, to the insecticide.

Neonicotinoid-Treated-Seeds have been used in Canada for a decade WITH VERY FEW INCIDENTS.



Best Management Practices

The plant science industry has invested heavily in research and development to limit any potential exposure of bees to dust from Neonicotinoid-Treated-Seeds.

We as an industry have also reached out in an effort to work together to find LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS TO BEE HEALTH ISSUES.

Through these partnerships, we've been able to develop and widely distribute a comprehensive set of BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES for planting Corn with Neonicotinoid-Treated-Seeds.

Working Together

While we're making significant progress by working with grower groups, governments, as well as the Canadian Honey Council, there are others who refuse to join the larger dialogue around this issue.

Everyone in the agricultural value chain has an interest in bee health.

We'd be all much better served by WORKING TOGETHER and taking a holistic, science-based approach to addressing bee health challenges that will enable the agricultural system as a whole to thrive.

An Outright Ban On Neonicotinoids Would Be Reckless And Costly

FORCE OF NATURE | THE WHOLE TRUTH FROM AN INDEPENDENT PERSPECTIVE from National Organization Responding Against HUJE that seek to harm the Green Space Industry (NORAHG)



Stop Blaming Insecticides For Decreasing Bee Population

July 11th, 2013

Dr Lorne Hepworth

TheObserver.Ca

Province Of Ontario

Selected And Adapted Excerpts



Dr Lorne Hepworth is president of CropLife Canada, the trade association representing manufacturers, developers and distributors of pest control products, including those designed specifically for agricultural and urban use.



Overwhelming Scientific Evidence Shows That Insecticides Do Not Harm Bees

There is OVERWHELMING SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE demonstrating that neonicotinoid residues are NOT A SIGNIFICANT FACTOR IN OVERALL BEE HEALTH DECLINE.

That is why, rather than focusing only on one factor, we should be taking a HOLISTIC APPROACH to solving this important problem.

20 Million Acres Of Insecticide-Treated Canola Causes No Harm To Bees

In Western Canada, more than 20 MILLION ACRES OF CANOLA is planted, the majority of which is treated with Neonicotinoid Insecticides, and BEE HEALTH REMAINS STRONG.

If we look at the rest of the world, certain regions that do not use Neonicotinoid Insecticides are experiencing MAJOR BEE LOSSES while other regions that make wide-spread use of Neonicotinoid Insecticides have healthy, thriving bee populations.

Clearly, there is no reason, then, to draw the conclusion that Neonicotinoid Insecticides are solely to blame for the losses of Ontario Bee-Keepers.



Health Canada Ensures That Neonicotinoid Insecticides Can Be Used Safely Without Harming Bees

Neonicotinoid-Treated-Seeds offer significant ADVANTAGES.

They are applied DIRECTLY TO THE SEED, thus limiting any exposure to nontarget organisms while providing valuable protection to the crop.

Neonicotinoid Insecticides currently on the market have been thoroughly assessed by Health Canada to ensure THEY CAN BE USED SAFELY WITHOUT HARMING BEES.

Canada SHOULD NOT FOLLOW THE LEAD OF EUROPE by proposing a KNEE-JERK PROHIBITION against Neonicotinoid Insecticides.

After all, Europe's current policies have put it the position of being the world's largest food importer.

Let's instead work collaboratively together to find meaningful, long-term solutions to bee health challenges that will ensure a productive and sustainable agricultural system.

Dr Lorne Hepworth is among several LEADING EXPERTS who have recognized expertise, training and background in matters concerning pest control products.

There Are Regions In The World That DO NOT USE Neonicotinoid Insecticides, And They Are Experiencing Major Bee Losses While Other Regions That Make Widespread Use Of These Insecticides Have Healthy, Thriving Bee Populations



Overall Bee Health Is A Complex Issue

May 16th, 2013

Dr Lorne Hepworth

Toronto Star

Province Of Ontario

Selected And Adapted Excerpts



Dr Lorne Hepworth is president of CropLife Canada, the trade association representing manufacturers, developers and distributors of pest control products, including those designed specifically for agricultural and urban use.



Bee Populations Are Not In Decline

On the issue of bee health more broadly, the most recent numbers from Statistics Canada show that BEE POPULATIONS IN THIS COUNTRY ARE NOT IN DECLINE.

In reality, scientists largely agree that overall bee health is a complex issue that is impacted by a number of FACTORS here in Canada, including HIVE PESTS AND PARASITES, DISEASE, INADEQUATE DIET, and CLIMATE CHANGE.

The pesticide manufacturing industry has a role to play in addressing some of these challenges, including developing new and improved hive health products.

It has become far too easy to BLAME any reported bee deaths on insecticides, a conclusion that is simply NOT SUPPORTED BY SCIENTIFIC DATA.

OTHER REGIONS OF THE WORLD THAT DO NOT USE Neonicotinoid Insecticides ARE EXPERIENCING MAJOR BEE LOSSES, WHILE OTHER REGIONS THAT MAKE WIDE-SPREAD USE OF THESE INSECTICIDES HAVE HEALTHY, THRIVING BEE POPULATIONS.

Canada has one of the most vibrant agricultural sectors in the world, enabled, in part, through our SCIENCE-BASED REGULATORY SYSTEM.

While it's easy to get wrapped up in the rhetoric around bee health and insecticide BANS, we encourage the Canadian government to stick to SCIENCE-BASED DECISION-MAKING.

There Is Overwhelming
Scientific Evidence
Demonstrating That
Neonicotinoid Insecticides
Are Not A Significant Factor
In Overall Bee Health Decline

Background Information From An Independent Perspective

The Leading Experts Say Pest Control Products Are Scientifically Safe

The following LEADING EXPERTS have recognized expertise, training and background in matters concerning pest control products.

These LEADING EXPERTS include Policy Experts, Leading Scientific Experts, Industry Leaders, Elected Officials, Doctorate-Level Experts, Commentators, and Business Owners.

These REAL EXPERTS have publicly stated, in one form or another, that pest control products are SCIENTIFICALLY-SAFE —

Dr Bruce Nathan AMES Steven J.	MILLOY, Juris Do	octor
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Dr Josh BLOOM	٦r	Leonard	RH	IER

Tad CHIDI FICH	Dr. Clayton I	M CWITZED
Ted CHUDLEIGH	Dr Clayton I	M. SWITZEK
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Dr	William	Richard	Shahoe	DOLL	Pete	r Shawn	TAYLOR	
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Dr Frank N. DOST	HEALTH	CANADA	4	

Paul K. DRIESSEN, Juris Doctor	The 7000 BEE-KEEPERS
	(APICULTURISTS) WHO ARE
Art C. DRYSDALE	MEMBERS OF CANADIAN HONEY

	MCIL
Dr J. Gordon EDWARDS	THOUGANDS OF EVE

	THE THOUSANDS OF EXILENT
Dr Allan S. FELSOT	SCIENTISTS at U.S. ENVIRONMEN-
DI / (IIdii 5. 1 22551	TAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Dr Lorne HEPWORTH Dr Katherine VON STACKELBERG

John J. HOL	LAND	Dr	Elizabeth M.	WHELAN

Dr Lorne Hepworth's Biography

Dr Lorne Hepworth is among several LEADING EXPERTS who have recognized expertise, training and background in matters concerning pest control products.

Dr Hepworth is President of CropLife Canada, formerly Crop Protection Institute of Canada, since 1997, as well as its past Vice-President.

He is responsible for overall strategic direction and management.



CropLife Canada is the trade association representing manufacturers, developers and distributors of pest control products, including those designed specifically for agricultural and urban use.

Dr Hepworth is also Chairman of the PRESTIGIOUS Genome Canada's Executive Committee, a non-profit organization established in February 2000 that was given a mandate by the Government of Canada to develop and implement a national strategy for supporting large-scale genomics and proteomics research projects.

Dr Hepworth is the nation's MOST EFFECTIVE and CONSISTENT SPOKESMAN on the subject of public policy and pest control products.

In Letters To The Editor across Canada, Dr Hepworth has effectively and consistently spoken out against activists and anti-pesticide prohibitions on a very frequent basis.

Dr Hepworth is a graduate of Western College of Veterinary Medicine at University of Saskatchewan, and was a veterinarian in Alberta and Saskatchewan until 1982.

In 1982, Dr Hepworth was elected Member of the Legislative Assembly for the Constituency of Weyburn, Saskatchewan, and served nine years in the Saskatchewan Cabinet, holding portfolios for Agriculture, Education, Finance, and Energy and Mines.







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