DG SANCO activities on bee-health

State of play

Eric Poudelet
Director, Safety of the food chain
DG Health and Consumers

Health and Consumers

Content

European Commission

Commission policies on Bee Health

1 Strategy – Commission Communication
2 Animal health - EURL
3 Pesticides
4 Veterinary medicines
5 Conclusions

Health and Consumers

1. Strategy

Commission Communication on honeybee health

- Coordination
- Consistent approach on bee health policies
- Inter-services

Wide Commission inter-sevice group

DG SANCO

- **Animal health: pathogens**
- **Pesticides**
- **Veterinary medicines**
- **Residues in honey**

DG Agriculture

- **Honey production, apiculture programmes**
- **Environmental measures**

DG Environment

- **Biodiversity**

DG Research

- **Animal health**
- **Environmental**

Other DGs …

European Commission

Commission Communication on honeybee health

Bee health is linked with many factors of different nature:

- bacterial, viral, parasitic, etc
- food availability
- availability of veterinary drugs
- invasive species
- environmental changes
- the use of pesticides in agriculture

European Commission

Policy on listed bee diseases

Less rules than for other animals (e.g. bovine)

Notification obligation:

- **SHB, Tropilaelaps**

Intra-EU trade rules of bees

Import rules for:

- **Live bees**
- **Apiculture by-products**
- **No rules for honey (only for residues)**

(Recent proposal on animal health)

- **Covers bees, status quo remains**

Key issue: live bees import

Only queen bees (with max 20 attendants) or bumble bees

Import requirements:

- **AFB, SHB, Tropilaelaps**

Legislation in force:

- **Regulation (EU) No 206/2010 – Annex VI**
- **List of third countries + certificate models**

Systematic controls at arrival into the EU

European Commission

New EFSA risk assessment: entry of pests into EU

Small hive beetle, Tropilaelaps spp.

Mitigation is already in EU legislation: no change

Important that beekeepers and authorities:

- **Handle well and sample imported queens**
- **Do actions to improve awareness for rules and risks**

http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/press/news/130314.htm

EU bee health reference laboratory

ANSES – Sophia-Antipolis lab (France)

Since 2011

Key role

- **Diagnostics**
- **Technical and scientific assistance**
- **…**

Guide the network of national reference labs

Design and coordinate EU bee health surveillance

EU bee health surveillance studies

To follow-up an EFSA study (2009)

17 voluntary Member States (BE, DK, DE, EE, EL, ES, FR, IT, LT, LV, HU, PT, PL, SK, FI, SE, UK)

EU harmonised protocol and check list

Official veterinary services

Three visits

- **autumn + spring + summer**

Harmonised software and database

First results come soon

To be repeated in 2013-2014

2. Animal health

European Commission

BTSF
Better Training for Safer Food

For officials of Member States:

- **Central, local, lab**
- **Training of trainers**

Animal health rules and beyond

Workshops since 2010

Around 200 persons

Continued in 2014-15

3. Pesticides

Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009

placing of plant protection products on the market (fully applicable since June 2011)

- ✓ *Strengthen existing criteria for approval of active substances ➔ effects on honeybee larvae and colony development*
- ✓ *New data requirements for pesticides dossiers – Regulations (EU) No 283-284/2013 ➔ (chronic effects of pesticides; real exposure of bees to pesticides e.g. nectar and pollen, guttation)*

3. Pesticides

5 neonicotinoids (NNI) approved as plant protection products at EU level

Acetamiprid	*since 2004*
Thiacloprid	*since 2004*
Clothianidin	***since 2006***
Thiamethoxam	***since 2007***
Imidacloprid	***since 2008***

Higher acute toxicity profile [1]

[1]: Statement EFSA Journal May 2012; 10(5): 2752

3. Pesticides

European Commission

COM requested EFSA to review neonicotinoids as regard their impact on bees

(Art 21 Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009)

Spring 2012**, following new scientific publications on the **sub-lethal effects of neonicotinoids

3 NNI (Clothianidin, thiamethoxam and imidacloprid)

seed treatment and granular applications

3 main routes of exposure for bees:

- dust

- residues in nectar and pollen

- residues in guttation

3. Pesticides

EFSA Conclusions published on 16 January 2013

Acute risks identified for all crops attractive to bees

Several data gaps and need for further studies

Some safe uses (e.g. sugar beet, green houses)

Internazionale

Lunedì 27 maggio 2013 aggiornato alle 19.54

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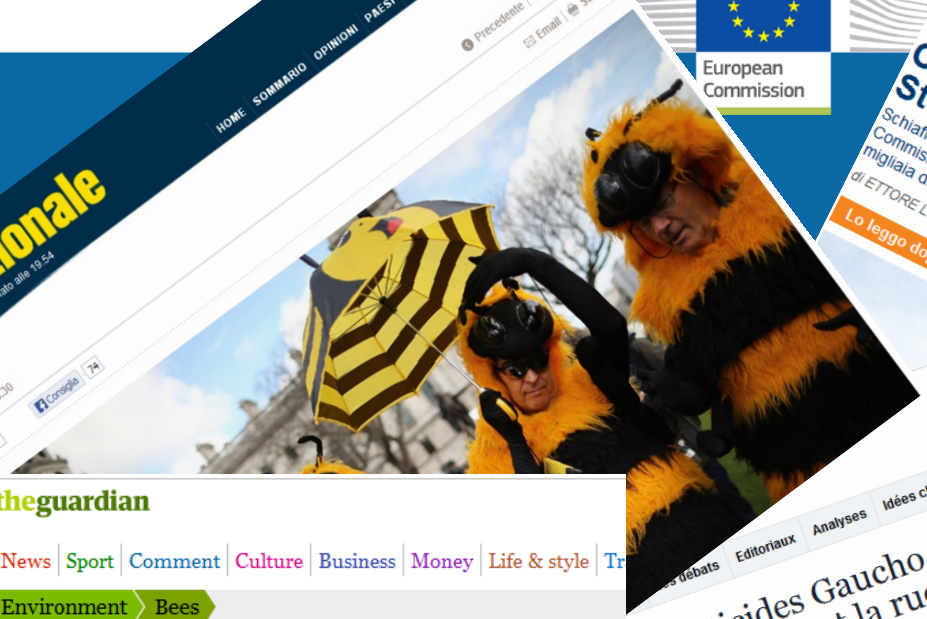

European Commission

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Sei in: Repubblica > Economia > Ok della Ue alla norma ...

Ok della Ue alla norma salva-api Stop di due anni ai pesticidi killer

Schiaffo ai big dell'agrochimica come Bayer e Syngenta: Bruxelles, malgrado un voto non decisivo in Commissione, blocca per due anni l'uso di tre neonocotinoidi, ritenuti potenziali responsabili della morte di migliaia di alveari in tutta Europa. La "Api Spa" vale 29 miliardi di euro.

di ETTORE LIVINI

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Environment › Bees

US rejects EU claim of insecticide as prime reason for bee colony collapse

Government study points to a combination of factors for decline in population, breaking away from singling out pesticides

Suzanne Goldenberg, US environment correspondent

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guardian.co.uk, Thursday 2 May 2013 20.04 BST

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insecticides Gaucho, Cruiser et ncho enfument la ruche

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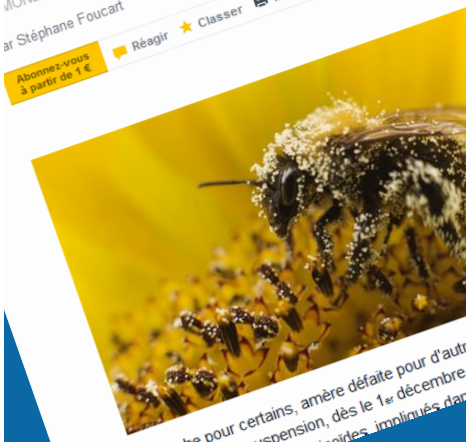

Triomphe pour certains, amère défaite pour d'autr
d'une probable suspension, dès le 1er décembre
insecticides dits néonicotinoïdes, impliqués dan

ealth and Consumers

EL PAÍS

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DIRECTO

Aznar reaparece tras sus críticas a Rajoy. El expresidente despertado una gran expectación mediática ante la posibilidad de q

Bruselas veta tres pesticidas que afectan a la población de abejas

- Estos insectos son vitales para la polinización de los cultivos
- La medida se atrasa a final de año para dar margen a los agricultores

L. DONCEL / E. G. SEVILLANO | Bruselas / Madrid | 30 ABR 2013 - 00:10 CET | 23

Archivado en: Cultivos industriales | Abejas | EFSA | Pesticidas | Insectos | Comisión Europea | Plagas | UE | Sector químico | Protección cultivos | Empresas | Sanidad | Agricultura | Animales

Varias decenas de activistas disfrazados de apicultores frente a una gigantesca abeja hinchable festejaban ayer en pleno centro del barrio europeo de Bruselas el éxito que los ecologistas y la Autoridad Europea de Seguridad Alimentaria acaban de lograr frente a gigantes químicos como Bayer y Syngenta. Tras recibir el respaldo de 15 Estados

3. Pesticides

Regulation (EU) No 485/2013

Significantly restrict the use of PPP and treated seeds containing the 3 substances
(fully applicable from 1 December 2013)

The uses of PPP and treated seeds will remain available only to professional users for:

- crops not attractive to bees
- green-houses
- winter cereals
- post-flowering foliar application

COM will initiate review of the measure within 2 years

3. Pesticides

European Commission

Fipronil – another systemic insecticide

2nd Semester 2012, COM requested EFSA to review fipronil (phenyl-pyrazole) as regard its impact on bees following the EFSA assessment of the Italian Apenet Project

- **EFSA Conclusions published on 27 May 2013**

- **Regulation (EU) No 781/2013**

  significantly restrict the use of PPP and treated seeds containing fipronil (applicable from 1 March 2014)

COM will initiate review of the measure within 2 years

4. Veterinary medicines

European Commission

Limited availability of medicines for bees

- **relatively small market for this type of product**
- **difficult issue, little progress**

Full review of veterinary medicines legislation is on-going

5. Conclusions

An EU framework is in place to protect bee health

Measures based on science and data

- **Recent unprecedented measures on Neonicotinoids**

Constant monitoring, update

No easy and/or quick risk management solutions