



NEONICOTINOID PESTICIDE USE IN OILSEED CROPS

Title 3, California Code of Regulations (3 CCR) sections 6990 through 6990.16

WHAT: The Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) has adopted regulations to limit neonicotinoid pesticide product use in the production of certain agricultural commodities. The new regulations apply to soil and foliar applications of products containing clothianidin, dinotefuran, imidacloprid, and thiamethoxam. The regulations do not apply to neonicotinoid use in non-agricultural (e.g., structural or home use) or non-production agricultural (e.g., parks, cemeteries) settings, or to seed treatment applications.

WHY: Pollinators, such as honeybees, are critical to growers and the entire agricultural industry, as well as to the consumers of the commodities produced. Neonicotinoid pesticide products may present hazards to honeybees and other pollinators. Pollinators can be exposed to neonicotinoids, through contact with residues or by ingesting contaminated pollen or nectar since neonicotinoids are systemic pesticides that move through the plant's tissue. DPR adopted these regulations to protect pollinators from risks from exposure to neonicotinoids in agricultural crops.

HOW: To mitigate these identified risks to pollinators, these new regulations have crop-specific rate and application timing restrictions. Statewide, the regulations are expected to reduce the amount of neonicotinoid pesticides used and acres treated.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

Product labels will not be updated with these requirements. Those selling, recommending, buying, or using these products should be aware of these regulations. Growers and applicators must follow the new regulations if applicable. These regulations apply in addition to any requirements found on neonicotinoid product labeling. In the event of a conflict between labeling requirements and these regulations, the strictest requirement must be followed.

PRODUCTS IMPACTED

As of June 2023, there are over 50 products covered by the new regulations. Below are the top neonicotinoid products used in oilseed crops for each active ingredient. This information was compiled using publicly available data by products with the highest number of applications in 2020. The identification of these products is intended for educational purposes only to inform growers and applicators of the most commonly used pesticide products in oilseed crops that would be subject to DPR's neonicotinoid regulations.

1. Clothianidin: Belay Insecticide (EPA Reg. No. 59639-150-AA)
2. Dinotefuran: Venom Insecticide (EPA Reg. No. 59639-135-AA)
3. Imidacloprid: Wrangler Insecticide (EPA Reg. No. 34704-931-AA), Leverage 360 (EPA Reg. No. 264-1104-AA)
4. Thiamethoxam: Centric 40WG (EPA Reg. No. 100-1147-AA)

Examples of Oilseed Crops

- Cotton (cottonseed) for both the production of food or fiber
- Flax seed
- Mustard seed
- Poppy seed
- Rapeseed
- Rose hip
- Safflower
- Sesame
- Sunflower
- Cultivars, varieties, and hybrids of these



California Department of
Pesticide Regulation

Before making any agricultural applications of
neonicotinoids, BEE sure to review the regulations!



3 CCR SECTION 6990.10. NEONICOTINOID USE ON OILSEED

Unless the application is exempted by section 6990(c), the following restrictions apply to oilseed crops:

1. BLOOM PROHIBITION

Application of a neonicotinoid is prohibited during bloom. The term "bloom" means the period from the onset of flowering until petal fall is complete. It is important for growers to know their crop and local climate.

2. TOTAL MAXIMUM COMBINED APPLICATION RATE

If both soil and foliar application methods are used on the same crop, or if multiple neonicotinoid active ingredients are applied to the same crop, a total maximum combined application rate must not exceed 0.3 lbs. ai/A/season.

3. RATE AND TIMING RESTRICTIONS

If managed pollinators will be used within the growing season, the application rate and timing restrictions listed in the following table apply.

Note Regarding Cotton: Cotton is a unique crop in that it used for both food and fiber. These regulations apply to all neonicotinoid applications on cotton growing in production agriculture fields (i.e. both cotton grown for food or fiber).

Active Ingredient	Soil Application		Foliar Application	
	Maximum Application Rate	Required Timing	Maximum Application Rate	Required Timing
Clothianidin	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited
Dinotefuran	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited
Imidacloprid	Prohibited	Prohibited	0.3 lbs. ai/A/season	Apply only from pre-planting until bloom
Thiamethoxam	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited

EXEMPTIONS FROM THE REGULATIONS – Section 6990(c)

1. An application made to an agricultural commodity grown inside an enclosed space, insect exclusionary structure/netting
2. An application made to address a local emergency or to control a quarantine pest
3. An application allowed under an active "Section 18" Emergency Exemption
4. An application authorized for research purposes to support a proposed amendment to these regulations

The product labeling must still be followed!

For questions contact your local
County Agricultural Commissioner:
www.cdfa.ca.gov/exec/county/countymap

For more information on the regulations, visit the following links:
www.cdpr.ca.gov/neonicotinoiduse/
<https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/legbills/rulepkgs/22-001/22-001.htm>