

California Department of Pesticide Regulation
1001 I Street, P.O. Box 4015
Sacramento, California 95812-4015

Submitted via email to: TreatedSeeds@cdpr.ca.gov

Dear California Department of Pesticide Regulation,

Please accept these 5,078 public comments from members and online activists of the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) calling on you to curb the use of seeds treated with neonicotinoid pesticides (“neonics”), one of the largest insecticide uses in the state.

When seeds are treated with neonics, these pesticides are absorbed by the plant, making the entire plant — its roots, leaves, fruit, and pollen — toxic to pollinators.

Dangerous neonic-coated seeds don't just kill bees, birds, and other pollinators, they put the future of our food supply and our health at risk.

Our food supply depends on these pollinators. A decline in the population of pollinators can result in increased food costs, which can lead to reduced access to healthy food, and worsening food insecurity — crises that will hit low-income communities and communities of color especially hard.

And neonics could pose a health risk to people as well: research now shows that neonic exposures may lead to an elevated risk of developmental or neurological damage and other health complications — especially in pregnant women and children.

Please move quickly to regulate pesticide-treated seeds to protect pollinators, our food supply, and our communities.

Sincerely,
Josue

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