



NEONICOTINOID PESTICIDE EXPOSURE PROTECTION

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

WHEN: New Regulations become effective January 1, 2024

WHO: Factsheet for Pest Control Advisers, Applicators, Growers, Registrants, Dealers, and Brokers.

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, to applications to nursery stock, 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 used and acres treated with neonicotinoid pesticides.

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 3 neonicotinoid products used by each active ingredient. This information was compiled using publicly available data by products with the highest number of applications from 2018-2022. The identification of these products is intended for educational purposes only to inform growers and applicators of the most commonly used pesticide products that would be subject to DPR's neonicotinoid regulations.

1. Clothianidin: Belay Insecticide (59639-150-AA), Nipsit Vegetables Insecticide (59639-151-ZA), Belay 50 WDG Insecticide (59639-152-ZA)
2. Dinotefuran: Venom Insecticide (59639-135-AA), Scorpion 35 SL Insecticide (10163-317-AA), Safari 20 SG Insecticide (86203-11-AA-59639)
3. Imidacloprid: Admire Pro Systemic Protectant (264-827-ZA), Wrangler Insecticide (34704-931-AA), Leverage 360 Insecticide (264-1104-AA)
4. Thiamethoxam: Actara (100-938-ZA), Platinum 75 SG (100-1291-ZA), Endigo ZC (100-1276-AA and 100-1276-ZA)



THE REGULATIONS — ORGANIZED BY CROP GROUPS

The regulations are organized based on crop groupings found in Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations section 180.41(c). The regulations are based on a crop group’s relative attractiveness to pollinators and on agricultural practices, such as harvesting crops before bloom. Typically, pollinators are most attracted to crops when they are in “bloom.” For most crops, “bloom” is defined in the regulations as the period from the onset of flowering until petal fall is complete. For citrus in a Citrus/Bee Protection Area (Fresno, Kern, and Tulare counties) the bloom period is defined in 3 CCR section 6984(b).

In general, each crop group has one to three types of restrictions proposed (e.g. prohibition of application, seasonal cap, and application rate and timing specifications).

Crops normally harvested <u>before</u> bloom	Crops normally harvested <u>after</u> bloom	Other crops where DPR was unable to determine applications that are low risk to pollinators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. When the crop is harvested before bloom, the crop is not subject to the article. Follow label instructions. b. However, if the crop will bloom (e.g., for seed production), neonicotinoid use is prohibited on the crop. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Use is prohibited during bloom. b. Additional use restrictions if multiple AIs or both soil and foliar application methods are used on the crop during the growing season. c. Additional use restrictions if managed pollinators will be used with the crop during the growing season. d. Additional restrictions for certain crops. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Use is prohibited during bloom. b. Only one neonicotinoid AI is permitted per growing season. c. Only one application method (soil or foliar) is permitted per growing season. d. If managed pollinators will be used with the crop, neonicotinoid use is 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>