

Pesticide-Treated Seeds Questions for Stakeholders

11/15/21

The Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) is seeking information on the current use and potential impacts of pesticide-treated seeds. The information gathered as a part of the virtual workshop on November 15, 2021 and written responses to the questions provided below will inform future actions by DPR.

Comments are due February 15, 2022

Comments and any related questions may be submitted to TreatedSeeds@cdpr.ca.gov or in hard copy to:

Jennifer Teerlink

1001 I Street, P.O. Box 4015

Sacramento, California 95812-4015

Questions

- What California crops are typically grown from pesticide-treated seeds? Is there any industry tracking of what portion of those crops rely on pesticide-treated seeds?
- Is there any tracking of how much (e.g., acres treated, pounds applied) total pesticide-treated seed is planted in California?
- What kind of insect or other pest pressures do seeds face?
- For crops that use pesticide-treated seeds, are these primarily imported, treated in California at a treatment facility or seed retailer, or treated on site?
- Is there any industry tracking or documentation that details how much pesticide treated seed is imported into California for use in California?
- How much seed treatment product does the seed retain versus how much is lost in the treatment process? What information is available on the mass of pesticide on the seed at the time of planting?
- The peer-review literature heavily focuses on environmental impacts from neonicotinoid-treated seeds. Is there information focused on other active ingredients utilized in pesticide-treated seeds?
- Is there any information on the relative environmental impact of pesticide-treated seeds versus other application methods?