

# **NMDA Agriculture and Environmental Services Division Pesticide Compliance Section**

General Information Related to Aerial Application and Neonicotinoid Insecticides

Water and Natural Resources Committee  
September 27, 2024

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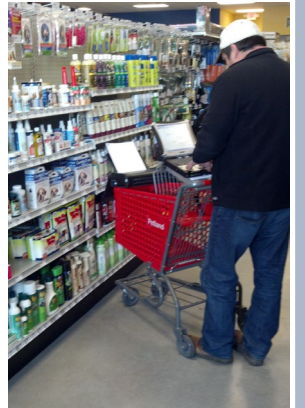
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**NMDA**  
New Mexico Department of Agriculture

# Responsibilities and Authorities

## Primary Statutory Responsibilities under the Pesticide Control Act

- Registration of pesticide products;
- Continuous review of pesticide product labels to ensure compliance with EPA standards;
- Testing and licensing of Commercial and specific Non-Commercial Pesticide Applicators;
- Verification of continuing education for pesticide applicators;
- Inspection and verification of licenses, application equipment, products used, storage and disposal of pesticides, application records, safety/protective equipment for all types of applicators.



# Responsibilities cont.

## Programs in Support of Compliance with Pesticide Control Act

- Investigate complaints that may involve misapplication of pesticides
- Unused pesticide collection events
- Investigate bee kills
- Annual survey of surface water for pesticide residues
- Continuing Education presentations to industry



# Aerial Spraying

Applications made to private and public land for:

- Restoration projects
- Agricultural production
- Invasive pest projects

Fixed wing or rotary aircraft

Applicators are predominantly Commercial Applicators:

- Maintain liability insurance
- Renew license annually with continuing education or re-testing

Use of Technology: GPS controls, electrostatic spraying, UAV (drones)



# Neonicotinoid insecticides

Chemical class of insecticides chemically similar to nicotine for the control of insect pests in the following:

- Agriculture-treated seed, sprays
- Turf and Ornamental-sprays, granules
- Structural Pest Control-sprays, baits
- Pet Treatments-back drops/collars

Imidacloprid  
Acetamiprid  
Thiacloprid  
Dinotefuran  
Nitenpyram  
Thiamethoxam  
Clothianidin  
Sulfoxaflor

Majority of products are restricted to use by professionals

Notable decline in retail products available to homeowners, replaced with other active ingredients.

# Neonicotinoid insecticides cont.

No detections in bee surveys (wax and honeycomb) to date

No detections in surface water analysis to date

No detections in past bee kills associated with pesticides

Imidacloprid  
Acetamiprid  
Thiacloprid  
Dinotefuran  
Nitenpyram  
Thiamethoxam  
Clothianidin  
Sulfoxaflor

# NMDA Pollinator Related Work

- Annual Drift Watch sponsor
- Collaboration with New Mexico Beekeepers Association on bee health surveys
- Sponsor pollinator habitat improvement or gardens
- Annual surface water survey for pesticide residues
- Investigation of bee kills for pesticide related causes
- Pollinator protection messaging on water bill mailers to Albuquerque residents
- Television commercials with pollinator protection messaging
- Outreach material developed for National Pollinator Week
- Continuing education presentations to industry license holders for education on pollinator protection practices
- Verifying and enforcing pollinator related label language on pesticides during inspections
- National training related to pollinator health and bee kill investigations
- 2024 Pollinator memorial



Thank you

Questions?

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