

Subject: Re: Neonicotinoids

From: LynneHoot@aol.com

Date: 2/13/2014, 3:43 PM

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Lindsay and I put our heads together to come up with this action list, (attached also). Please let me know if we missed anything. We are using this snow day to review materials.

Action items:

MDA:

1. Get list of products (including common names and uses) containing neonicotinoids registered in Maryland.
2. Review history of any bee kill complaints and outcomes.

Lynne and Lindsay:

1. Review the list of products registered and establish a list of allies and their member organizations who are impacted by this legislation. Review the lobbyist list and see who is representing them and make contact with them and encourage their participation.
2. Review all the talking points and materials provided in preparation for legislator meetings.
3. Meet with Delegates Healey and McIntosh as bill sponsors to discuss our concerns with the bill and provide an understanding of what is already being done.
4. Meet with Environmental Matter Committee members who are likely to support our position to ensure that they understand the bill and its implications and questions to raise during the hearing.
5. Work with fellow opponents to develop talking points, written testimony, etc. This will include Maryland Farm Bureau, grain farmers, MaGIC member organizations, etc. Determine who is most likely to get a positive interview with committee members. Coordinate activities and establish frequent dialog. Ask MASCD to present their pollinator habitat grant project to show we care.
6. Work to establish panels at the hearing and oral testimony to address all the key points in limited hearing time.
7. Post-hearing, follow up with legislators to address and concerns or questions raised.
8. Count committee votes focusing on subcommittee members first (if this goes into the environmental rather than the ag subcommittee it will be harder to deal with).

CropLife and Industry:

1. Provide any additional information that you think will help educate Lindsay and me and provide concise notes we can use in testimony to explain the issues and web links or publications where additional information can be found.
2. Provide back up information on the current EPA registration review, standardized reporting & investigation of bee kill complaints, follow up research following the French ban in the late 90's, EPA not requiring amended labeling requirements, etc.
3. If possible, provide a technical resource who can attend the Feb 26th hearing and in 2-3

minutes provide a technical understanding, in layman's terms as to why the bill is not necessary.

4. Provide a list of questions that a member of the legislature should ask the technical expert to enable him/her to go into greater detail (Q&A time is not limited).

In a message dated 2/12/2014 10:58:39 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, LynneHoot@aol.com writes:

I spoke with Allen Ayres yesterday and he asked that I put down a list of what I think we need to kill HB 1285. I appreciate the offer and also want to make sure that each company isn't duplicating efforts to help us defeat this bill. With this in mind, I offered to coordinate the circulation of supporting documentation. For anyone who has not read the bill, there is a link to the bill at the bottom.

Patsy has already sent us the CropLife Pollinators and Colony Health white paper and poster which are very helpful. If companies have existing talking points they can share that too would be helpful.

Other states: We would like to know what legislation has been introduced in other states, what is the status of the legislation (passed, defeated, pending), what arguments the industry used to oppose and what the supporters used to promote greater restrictions. If they cited research, what did the research show and how do we overcome it.

EPA: Is EPA do asking for any additional studies, activities, education from industry and how is industry responding? Our arguments opposing state pesticide legislation is generally to point to this being a national issue and putting our farmers at a disadvantage. The argument in response is generally a lack of confidence in EPA. Anything we can showcase that EPA is on top of this will help us.

Industry: What is industry doing to deal with the pesticide - pollinator issue (perhaps some more specifics than in the CropLife white paper)

Pollinator decline research: As mentioned in the CropLife white paper, several reasons have been implemented in the pollinator decline. Is there some good research we can cite that addresses this?

The hearing date has been scheduled for February 26th at 1:00 p.m.

FYI - the nursery industry has responded that they are mixed in their support/opposition to the bill. Their support is based on potential new business. I did ask if they were OK with the precedent of the state legislature managing their business one product at a time, hopefully they will reconsider.

Lynne

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Attachments:

2014 HB 1285 Action items.docx

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