



# EFSA Conclusions on neonicotinoids

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- EFSA has undertaken its work upon receipt of a mandate from the European Commission
- The key elements of the mandate (1)
  - Deadline of 31/12/12
  - Substances: imidacloprid, clothianidin, thiamethoxam
  - all authorised uses as seed treatment and as granules are to be considered

- The following data had to be taken into account:
  - data submitted by the applicants at EU level and Member State level
  - the EFSA PPR Panel Scientific Opinion on the science behind the development of a risk assessment of plant protection products on bees (in preparation of an EFSA Guidance Document)
  - any other studies, research and monitoring activities that are relevant to the uses under consideration

- EFSA has started with a data collection: studies from the applicants and the Member States (MSs), information on the authorised uses from the MSs, published literature, monitoring data from the MSs
- In using the Scientific Opinion on the science behind the development of a risk assessment of plant protection products on bees, EFSA has incorporated in its assessment all new scientific insights

- EFSA has evaluated all data (including higher tier studies) and performed a risk assessment for both acute and chronic (including sublethal) effects considering the following routes of exposure (as mandated by the Commission):
  - exposure to dust released by the treated seeds and the granules
  - exposure to residues in nectar and pollen of the treated crops and of weeds
  - exposure to residues in guttation liquid

- EFSA has prepared draft conclusions and made them available to the MS authorities
- EFSA has organised an expert meeting with MS experts in order to discuss the draft conclusions
- After the expert meeting, EFSA has finalised the drafts; after a further written consultation of the MS authorities, EFSA has adopted the Conclusions on 19/12/12

- For many of the authorised uses, EFSA did not have enough data available in order to finalise the risk assessment (for instance not enough information on dust release, on concentration in pollen and nectar, on guttation frequency)
- The data available were also insufficient to perform a risk assessment for the exposure to residues in insect honey dew and in succeeding crops

- EFSA listed all data gaps, and gave an indication of the uncertainties associated with the risk assessment



- EFSA has summarised the outcome of the evaluations in tables; this outcome can be:
  - sufficient data was available to perform a risk assessment, and the outcome of this assessment was that a risk is identified (sometimes based on 1<sup>st</sup> tier risk assessment)
  - the risk assessment could not be finalised, because there were no, or not enough data to perform the risk assessment, or because there is no agreed risk assessment scheme or trigger value available
  - the risk assessment could be finalised, and no risk was identified

- Concerning the three main routes of exposure, the outcome of the assessment can be summarised as follows: where the risk assessments could be completed, EFSA concluded the following for all three substances:
  - **Exposure from pollen and nectar:** only uses on crops not attractive to honey bees were considered as presenting a low risk (other uses: risk identified or insufficient data to finalise the risk assessment)

- **Exposure from dust:** a risk to honey bees was indicated or could not be excluded, with some exceptions, such as use on sugar beet and crops planted in glasshouses, and for the use of some granules
- **Exposure from guttation:** the only risk assessment that could be completed was for maize treated with thiamethoxam. In this case, field studies show an acute effect on honey bees exposed to the substance through guttation fluid

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# Risks identified (acute risks)

	DUST	Pollen and Nectar	Guttation
Clothianidin	Maize Cereals OSR	OSR	-
Imidacloprid	Maize Cereals OSR Cotton	OSR Cotton Sunflower	-
Thiamethoxam	Maize Cereals OSR Cotton Sunflower *	-	Maize

**\*only one GAP**

- Long-term risk on colony survival and development
- Risk to pollinators other than honey bees
- Risk to honey bees foraging pollen and nectar in succeeding crops
- Risk to honey bees foraging in honey dew
- Risk following the exposure to sublethal doses
- Risk following the exposure to guttation (except TMX, acute risk)