

Question for written answer E-014724/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Marc Tarabella (S&D)

Subject: Banning neonicotinoids, and action beyond 2015

Neonicotinoids, known as 'systemic' insecticides because they permeate the whole vascular system of a plant, have been in use on European farms since the 1990s. In 2013 the Commission introduced restrictions on the use of three chemicals belonging to the neonicotinoid family of insecticides, a molecule that affects the central nervous system of insects. These measures concerned 75 crops deemed to be attractive to bees. Will the Commission conduct further assessments of the toxicity of these substances? Moreover, these two-year restrictions will expire in December 2015.

Does the Commission plan to extend them? What plan of action will be followed in respect of whether or not to keep these restrictions in place?