



Notification Number: 2017/39/F

Decree on the definition of neonicotinoid active substances contained in plant protection products

Date received : 02/02/2017
End of Standstill : 03/05/2017 (03/08/2017)
Issue of comments by : Commission
Issue of detailed opinion by : Hungary

Message

Message 002

Communication from the Commission - TRIS/(2017) 00265
Directive (EU) 2015/1535
Translation of the message 001
Notification: 2017/0039/F

No abre el plazo - Nezahajuje odklady - Fristerne indledes ikke - Kein Fristbeginn - Viivituste perioodi ei avata - Καμμία έναρξη προθεσμίας - Does not open the delays - N'ouvre pas de délais - Non fa decorrere la mora - Neietekmē atlikšanu - Atidėjimai nepradedami - Nem nyitja meg a késések - Ma' jiftaħ il-perijodi ta' dawmien - Geen termijnbegin - Nie otwiera opóźnień - Não inicia o prazo - Neotvorí oneskorenia - Ne uvaja zamud - Määräaika ei ala tästä - Inleder ingen frist - He ce предвижда период на прекъсване - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare.

(MSG: 201700265.EN)

1. Structured Information Line

MSG 002 IND 2017 0039 F EN 02-02-2017 F NOTIF

2. Member State

F

3. Department Responsible

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3. Originating Department

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4. Notification Number

2017/0039/F - C40C

5. Title

Decree on the definition of neonicotinoid active substances contained in plant protection products

6. Products Concerned

Plant protection products containing one or more neonicotinoid active substances and seeds treated with these products

7. Notification Under Another Act

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8. Main Content

This text implements Article 125-1 of Act No 2016-1087 of 8 August 2016 on the recovery of biodiversity, nature and landscapes, which bans the use of plant protection products containing one or more neonicotinoid active substances and of seeds treated with these products from 1 July 2020.

Transitional provisions state that an interministerial order can restrict or permit the use of these products between 1 September 2018 and 1 July 2020 following an assessment by the French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety. The benefits and risks of these products and seeds will be assessed in relation to the environment (in particular pollinators), public health and agricultural activity.

9. Brief Statement of Grounds

Many scientific journals and respected organisations (EASA, EASAC, INRA, CNRS, ANSES, etc.) share the view that neonicotinoids have a huge impact on various aspects of the environment and on non-target organisms, such as bees, macroinvertebrates and even birds. A recent EASA study also identified a risk to human health (impact on normal nervous system development).

Moreover, these substances belong to a homogeneous group of substances sharing the same properties – powerful systemic insecticides that affect the insects' nervous systems. This systemic nature means that once a plant has been treated with these substances, they are taken up into all of the plant's organs.

Against this background and in view of the environmental and public health concerns, France looked to implement a risk management policy that would restrict the use of plant protection products based on neonicotinoids and of seeds treated with such products.

To this end, the proposed text provides for a ban on these substances following an implementation period. It



also includes an assessment of the process in order to ensure market players are ready by the end of this period.

In view of the current usage of these substances to be banned and in terms of the number of products affected by these new provisions, there does not appear to be any technical factor preventing these molecules from being replaced when compared with existing authorised molecules. Moreover, the European Environment Agency has questioned how effective these products are in increasing agricultural yields.

The French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety will also draft a report comparing the risks and benefits of using plant protection products containing authorised neonicotinoid active substances in France with those of using replacement products or other available methods.

10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

No basic text(s) available.

11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure

No

12. Grounds for the Emergency

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13. Confidentiality

No

14. Fiscal measures

No

15. Impact assessment

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16. TBT and SPS aspects

TBT aspect

No - the draft is neither a technical provision nor a conformity assessment procedure.

SPS aspect

No - the draft is neither a sanitary nor phytosanitary measure.

European Commission

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