



# White House Pollinator Initiative

- **Release date is mid-Feb or later**
- Increase forage and plantings on federal lands, transportation corridors
- Affordable seed mixes for pollinators
- Effects of Pesticides on pollinators



# ASTA Comments

- Practical solutions are needed to increase pollinator forage
  - *Regionally adapted and available seed*
- Long-term cooperation is needed between seed industry, US and state government.
  - *High, quality and affordable seed*
- Neonicotinoid seed treatments are an important tool for growers.



# EPA Activities Related to White House Pollinator Initiative

- EPA to assess neonicotinoid pesticides for impact on bee health
- New requirements - Flupyradifurone
- Evaluating pollinator protection language for neonicotinoids and about 65 active ingredients
  - LD 50 of less than 11 micrograms per bee
  - Could impact labels for 1,600 products (spray only)
    - Unknown what language will be
      - » No application during bloom
      - » Not above 55 degrees
      - » Night only
    - Compliance with state plan could be alternative

# State Pollinator Protection Plans

- Current California, Colorado, Florida, North Dakota, Mississippi
- Model being developed for other states

## Key Elements

- Stakeholder engagement
- Notification of hive locations and pesticide application
- Guidance on application

# Neonicotinoids Popular Target in Coverage of Pollinator Health

**Save-Bees.org**

**What's KILLING**

**BBC NEWS SCIENCE & ENVIRONMENT**

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### Widespread impacts of neonicotinoids 'impossible to deny'

Many bee attractive pesticides in garden centers in the U.S. contain studies now show impact

Find out more and take containing neonicotinoids

The decline of bees around the world has increased focus on neonicotinoid chemicals

**CBCnews | Technology & Science**

HOME SPR

**SPECIAL REPORT | Bee researchers raise more warning flags about neonicotinoid pesticides**

Neonicotinoid build-up is contributing to collapse of colonies, researchers say. Not everyone agrees

What's killing the world's honey bees? Europe has banned popular agricultural pesticides containing neonicotinoids, while Canada and the U.S. have taken a more cautious approach, saying more evidence is needed. (Reuters)

**IN THE NEWS:**

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- House prices
- Canada in Afr
- Tuition costs

# EPA Study on Neonic Seed Treatment for Soybean

- *“Concludes that these seed treatments provide negligible overall benefits to soybean production in most situations.”*
- *“Multiple foliar insecticides are available ....have been found to be as efficacious as neonicotinoid seed treatments for target pests. “*



# ASTA CLA Joint Comments to EPA

- Report has needlessly cast uncertainty over products with demonstrated benefits
- A meta-analysis performed on the data analyzed by EPA revealed a 2.6 bushel per acre benefit
- AgInfomatics review of data from 23 states showed a 2.8% increase
- Benefits analysis should look beyond yield



# ASTA CLA Joint Comments to EPA cont'd

- The process used by EPA is inconsistent with law and basic principles of fairness.
- EPA should prepare a benefits assessment for all uses after it has completed its risk assessment
- EPA should request registrant data and give time to comply



The Guide to

# Seed Treatment

Stewardship

[www.seed-treatment-guide.com](http://www.seed-treatment-guide.com)





## Applicators

1. Comply with all regulations; train employees.
2. Establish written protocols to minimize dust off.
3. Adopt stewardship documentation for full life cycle.
4. Properly discard of treatment, treated seed and rinse water.
5. Convey all required and pertinent seed treatment



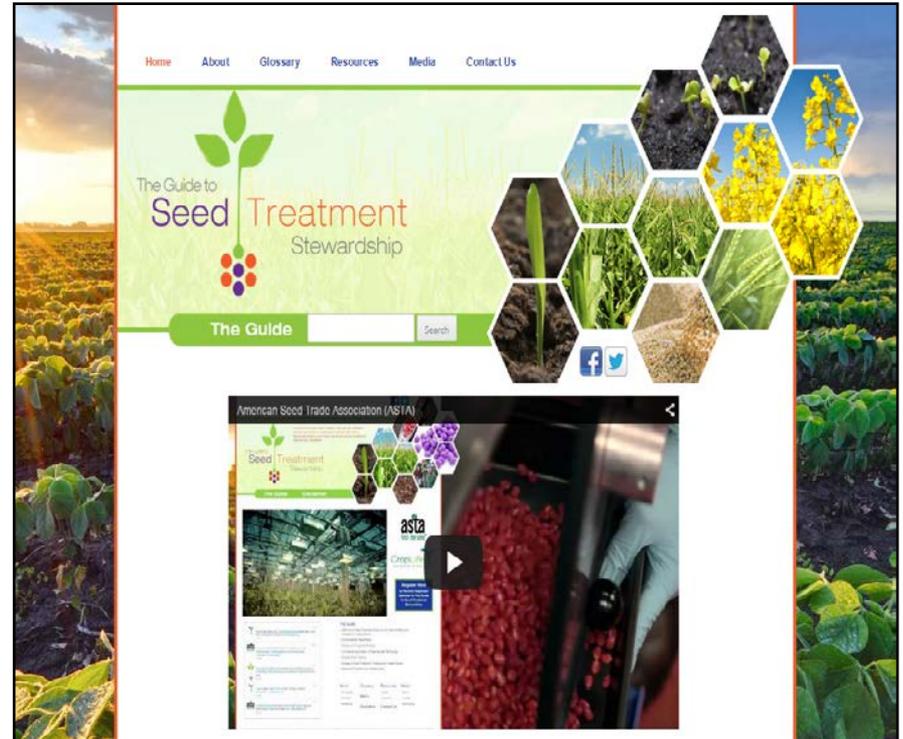
## Farmers

1. Follow label directions.
2. Be aware of wind speed & direction as well as:
  - Pollinators and hives
  - Flowering habitats
3. Properly dispose materials.
4. Ensure no treated seed in commodity grain channels.



# Additional Resources

- Key to Acronyms
- Seed Treatment Glossary
- Links to:
  - EPA and USDA regulations
  - State seed laws and regulations
  - Associations and stakeholder resources
  - Additional labeling information





# Help Us Spread the Word!

Share the Guide with your state organizations, neighbors and friends.

[www.seed-treatment-guide.com](http://www.seed-treatment-guide.com)





# Monarch

- Center for Biological Diversity, Center for food Safety and Xerces petition to list as an endangered species.
- Fish and Wildlife Services announce review  
Timeline
  - 90 day preliminary comment period – early March
  - Review will take 12 month and then public comment begins
- Senate to take up ESA reform