

27/4/18

# Press Release

## **Copa and Cogeca disappointed about general ban on neonicotinoid seed treatments**

Copa and Cogeca regretted today the EU decision to ban the use of neonicotinoid seed treatments on all outdoor crops when there was no justification for a total ban.

Reacting to the decision today, Copa-Cogeca Secretary-General Pekka Pesonen said “We attach great importance to honeybees and other pollinators at Copa and Cogeca as they are very important for crop production and to ensure biodiversity in the EU. Furthermore, as expressed in EFSA’s risk assessment, we understand that these substances may pose a risk for bees. But we are convinced that with the appropriate mitigation measures, these substances could have been re-authorised”.

“We are very disappointed about the EU move to impose a total ban on all non-flowering crops, including pelleted beet seed. All farmers rely on Plant Protection Products (PPPs) to fight pests and diseases, irrespective of the sector or production method. This ban will decrease farmers’ toolbox in an area where there are almost no alternatives. It will also jeopardise the livelihoods of many farmers and put our food supplies at risk”.

---

For further information, please contact:

**Cesar Gonzalez**

Senior Policy Advisor

Tel.: +32 2 287 27 45

Cesar.Gonzalez@copa-cogeca.eu

**Amanda Cheesley**

Press Officer

Mobile: + 32 474 840 836

amanda.cheesley@copa-cogeca.eu

---

**CDP(18)3322:1**

---