

## Canada delays neonicotinoid insecticide ban decision until at least December 2017

Health Canada won't issue a final decision on whether it will ban imidacloprid [until at least December 2017], says a horticultural industry representative.

[November 2016], the Pest Management Regulatory Agency proposed to ban the use of imidacloprid, a neonicotinoid insecticide, because it was accumulating in water near agricultural land. That was reportedly putting aquatic insects at risk and threatening animals that rely on those insects for food.

Craig Hunter, who works in research and crop protection with the Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association, said the PMRA is considering more information before it makes a decision.

"Their plan is to make their final determination by December.... and probably be published by the spring of (2018)."

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The Bayer product was once the most popular insecticide in the world. It is used as a seed treatment on field crops, but is very important to fruit, vegetables and potato producers in Canada.

On the Prairies it's used on wheat crops to control wireworm.

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Many grower associations told the PMRA, an agency operating under Health Canada, that nationwide phase-out of imidacloprid, over five years, was too severe and there wasn't sufficient evidence to justify such a ban.

**The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion, and analysis. Read full, original post:** Health Canada holds off on neonicotinoid ban