

Europe may relax its ban on neonicotinoid pesticides, alleged to harm bees, leaked document suggests

According to a [leaked document](#), the European Commission is considering ditching bee-safety standards that led to a ban of three neonicotinoid pesticides. Neonicotinoids are the most widely used class of insecticides in the world, but research has linked their use to declining pollinator populations.

[Editor's note: See the GLP's [With the 'bee crisis' fading and European farmers fearing an insect invasion, EU's neonicotinoid ban fiasco stumbles into the New Year](#) for more information about neonicotinoids and bee health.]

....In April [2018], Member States voted for an almost total ban of neonicotinoid pesticide use in Europe. However, a recently leaked document indicates the Commission may assess acute toxicity i.e effects resulting from a single contact to honeybees only, and ignore chronic toxicity that could develop from continuous or repeated exposure to the pesticides.

Read full, original article: [Controversial pesticides, single-use cutlery ban, GMOs and 'dual quality': A round-up of EU news & views](#)