Pesticide makers drop challenge to California's proposed chlorpyrifos insecticide ban

Pesticide manufactures on [September 9] agreed to drop challenges to a proposed California ban on sales of a product linked to brain disorders in children, speeding up the state's plan to remove the chemical from farms by two years.

In the pact, pesticide manufacturers such as DowAgroSciences agreed to stop selling chlorpyrifos products in California by February, according to the California Environmental Protection Agency.

The companies could have challenged the process ban, and drawn out the process by two years. The agreement also requires farmers to quit using the product and remove it from their property by the end of 2020.

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California moved to outlaw the pesticide after the Trump administration in 2017 nixed a proposed federal ban on the product. In July, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency again announced it would not ban the pesticide, finding that objections to it were not "supported by valid, complete, and reliable evidence."

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