

Abstracts: Poster

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1.3.P Chronic oral exposure of adult honey bees to PPPs: sensitivity and impact analysis of EFSA Bee GD

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Abstract

Based on EU Regulation 1107/2009/EC the current regulatory risk assessment on bees has to address the chronic risk on adult honeybees.

In July 2013 the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) published a guidance document on the risk assessment of plant protection products on bees (EFSA 2013). This document is intended to provide guidance for notifiers and authorities in the context of the review of plant protection products (PPPs) and their active substances under Regulation (EC) 1107/2009 (EC 2009).

The first aim of this poster is to summarize industry data based on studies conducted up to 2018, for active substances and formulated products on the chronic oral testing of adult honeybees according to OECD test guideline 245 and its previously drafts, in order to gain an overview of these results and the selectivity of different product groups.

As a first step in the risk assessment, EFSA requires a screening step which consists of the calculation of risk quotients (ETRs) for the chronic exposure based on the application rate, an application depending shortcut value, an exposure factor and the endpoint (LDD₅₀). This considers exposure routes for the in-field (PPPs applied as sprays) and off-field (PPPs used as seed treatments and granules) scenarios. Where a use does not pass one of the screening level risk quotients, EFSA offers the possibility for refinement in a tier I risk assessment. This includes refinement of the exposure estimates from the screening step and also additional exposure routes, such as the exposure to flowering weeds in the field and adjacent flowering crops. Screening step and tier I risk assessment were also conducted for bumble bees and solitary bees, using 1/10th of the honeybee endpoint.

The second aim of this poster is to evaluate the impact of the proposed screening and tier I risk assessments on the pass rate of currently available active substances and formulated products, thereby testing the ability of the scheme to correctly identify compounds of potential concern and consequently screen out those of low concern. The third objective of this work is to present the outcome of alternative calculations as described by ECPA (2017).

The aforementioned analysis follows the principles described in the ECPA impact analysis (Alix et al. 2013) which used theoretical data due to lack of real data. The present analysis compares the pass rates from this first approach with the outcome based on real laboratory data which are now available.