



Birds & Neonic-Coated Seeds

The Hidden Costs of High-Risk Pesticides

SEEDS ARE PURCHASED



Problem

- Bag labels with warnings do not always make it to the end user
- Many growers are not informed of what chemicals are used in seed coatings

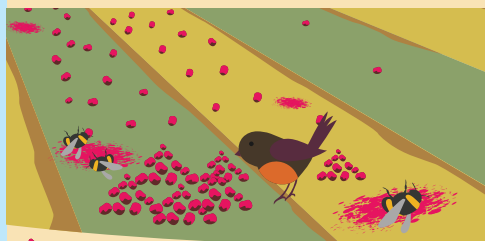
Solution

Make uncoated seeds easily available to growers who want them

Require a prescription from an agronomist to make sure neonics are the right tool for the job

Ensure multi-lingual bag labels, including ALL active ingredients, make it into the hands of end users

SEEDS ARE PLANTED



Problem

- Seed coatings are lost as dust during planting
- Bees and other pollinators may be harmed or killed by the dust
- Accidental spills are not cleaned up, attracting and poisoning birds and other wildlife
- Unused seed is improperly disposed of

Solution

Reduce dust-off when neonics are used, preferably by avoiding them all together

Educate growers on the importance of cleaning up spills

Enforce failures to clean up spills or improper burial

Require registrants to collect and dispose of seeds as hazardous material

SEEDS STAY, NEONICS LEAVE



Problem

- Nectar-eating birds are exposed to neonics via pollen, nectar, and dust-off
- 95-97% of neonics leave the seed and do not make it into the target plant
- Most of the neonics seep into soil or groundwater, killing beneficial non-target invertebrates
- Fewer bugs means fewer birds

Solution

Avoid Using Neonic-Coated Seeds!



NEONIC REGULATION NEEDS WORK

- Loopholes in federal pesticide law makes nearly impossible to understand where neonic-coated seeds are used
- Without knowing where they are used, we cannot fully know where they are impacting species
- Endangered Species and their Habitats are not adequately protected from neonics due to this lack of knowledge
- Many states are working to close this loophole with individual laws
- We need federal action to stop the end the overuse of neonics as seed coatings



American Bird Conservancy is dedicated to conserving wild birds and their habitats throughout the Americas.
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