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Acting Director

Department of Pesticide Regulation

Gov. Gavin Newsom
Governor

Jared Blumenfeld
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

California Notice 2021-15

TO: Pesticide Registrants and Other Stakeholders

SUBJECT: PESTICIDE-TREATED SEED WEBSITE, WORKSHOP MATERIALS,
PUBLIC COMMENT

The Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) would like to announce a new webpage that will host current and future documents related to Pesticide-Treated Seeds. The new webpage can be viewed at <www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/emon/surfwtr/pest_seeds.htm>.

WORKSHOP MATERIALS

DPR hosted a virtual public workshop on November 15, 2021, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. PDT through Zoom. The objectives of the workshop were to articulate current regulatory framework surrounding pesticide-treated seeds, characterize potential for off-site movement of seed coatings, and gather additional information on current use and potential impacts of pesticide-treated seeds. Slides have been posted to the newly created website. A full video of the workshop will be uploaded when available.

SEEKING PUBLIC COMMENT

DPR is seeking information on the current use and potential impacts of pesticide-treated seeds, specifically responses to the questions attached to this notice.

Comments will be accepted until **February 15, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. PDT**. Comments and any related questions may be submitted to <TreatedSeeds@cdpr.ca.gov> or in hard copy to:

Jennifer Teerlink
1001 I Street, P.O. Box 4015
Sacramento, California 95812-4015

DPR PESTICIDE-TREATED SEED QUESTIONS FOR STAKEHOLDERS

The Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) is seeking information on the current use and potential impacts of pesticide-treated seeds. The information gathered as a part of the virtual workshop on November 15, 2021 and written responses to the questions provided below will inform future actions by DPR.

FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS

Those interested in tracking DPR's activities related to Pesticide-Treated Seeds may sign up for the electronic mailing list for the Surface Water Protection Program at www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/dept/listserv/listdesc.htm.

Please direct questions to TreatedSeeds@cdpr.ca.gov.

Original signed by Ann Hanger for Tulio Macedo

Tulio Macedo, Chief
Pesticide Registration Branch
916-324-3527

November 29, 2021

Date

cc: Dr. Jennifer Teerlink, Environmental Program Manager I, DPR

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Questions

- What California crops are typically grown from pesticide-treated seeds? Is there any industry tracking of what portion of those crops rely on pesticide-treated seeds?
- Is there any tracking of how much (e.g., acres treated, pounds applied) total pesticide-treated seed is planted in California?
- What kind of insect or other pest pressures do seeds face?
- For crops that use pesticide-treated seeds, are these primarily imported, treated in California at a treatment facility or seed retailer, or treated on site?
- Is there any industry tracking or documentation that details how much pesticide treated seed is imported into California for use in California?
- How much seed treatment product does the seed retain versus how much is lost in the treatment process? What information is available on the mass of pesticide on the seed at the time of planting?
- The peer-review literature heavily focuses on environmental impacts from neonicotinoid-treated seeds. Is there information focused on other active ingredients utilized in pesticide-treated seeds?
- Is there any information on the relative environmental impact of pesticide-treated seeds versus other application methods?