Neonicotinoids Status Update
PPDC Meeting November 1, 2017 – Session 5

Background

- In 2016 and 2017, EPA released the following draft risk assessments for the neonicotinoids:
  - Imidacloprid
    - A preliminary pollinator-only analysis in January 2016
      - Approximately 400,000 comments were received
    - An ecological risk assessment for aquatic species in May 2017
      - Approximately 340,000 comments were received
    - A human health risk assessment in September 2017
      - Comment period closes on November 13, 2017
  - Clothianidin, thiamethoxam, dinotefuran
    - Preliminary pollinator risk assessments in May 2017
      - ~ 60,000 comments for clothianidin
      - ~ 35,000 comments for thiamethoxam
      - ~ 36,000 comments for dinotefuran
- Results from the preliminary pollinator assessments show:
  - Potential on-field risk from some use patterns appear to be low
    - Based on attractiveness to bees and agronomic practices
    - Includes seed treatment uses
  - Potential on-field risk from some use patterns remain uncertain: more data (to be reviewed in 2017-18) and further analysis will reduce these uncertainties
    - Includes soil uses
  - Potential on-field risk from some use patterns
    - Includes foliar uses
  - EPA intends to review public comments and new data to better inform its understanding of risks and benefits from uses that result in potential risks of concern

Status Update

- 2017
  - The Agency plans to release for public comment draft ecological risk assessments for additional taxa (other than pollinators) and draft human health risk assessments for clothianidin, thiamethoxam, and dinotefuran in the next few months.
  - EPA will also release the draft Imidacloprid ecological risk assessment for terrestrial species, as well as draft benefit assessments.
- 2018/2019
  - For all four neonicotinoids, OPP plans to revise the pollinator/ecological risk assessments (as needed) and propose interim decisions that may include risk mitigation (as needed).
  - Following the registration review schedule, EPA plans to issue final Interim Decisions on these chemicals in 2019.