Basic information

2019/2776(RPS) RPS - Implementing acts	Procedure completed
Resolution on the draft Commission regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 546/2011 as regards the assessment of the impact of plant protection products on honeybees **Subject** 3.10.03 Marketing and trade of agricultural products and livestock 3.10.09.02 Plant health legislation 3.70.13 Dangerous substances, toxic and radioactive wastes (storage, transport)	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
ENVI Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	ANDRIEU Eric (S&D) HOJSÍK Martin (Renew) EICKHOUT Bas (Greens/EFA) HAZEKAMP Anja (GUE/NGL)	07/10/2019 07/10/2019 07/10/2019 07/10/2019

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
IMCO Internal Market and Consumer Protection (Associated committee)		
AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development (Associated committee)		

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
30/07/2019	Non-legislative basic document published	D045385/06	
18/09/2019	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
23/10/2019	Decision by Parliament	T9-0041/2019	Summary
23/10/2019	Results of vote in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2019/2776(RPS)
Procedure type	RPS - Implementing acts
Procedure subtype	Comitology with scrutiny
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ENVI/9/01091

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Motion for a resolution		B9-0149/2019	23/10/2019	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0041/2019	23/10/2019	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	D045385/06	30/07/2019	
Commission response to text adopted in plenary	SP(2020)20	26/02/2020	

Resolution on the draft Commission regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 546/2011 as regards the assessment of the impact of plant protection products on honeybees

2019/2776(RPS) - 23/10/2019 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 533 votes to 67, with 100 abstentions, a resolution objecting to the draft Commission regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 546/2011 as regards the assessment of the impact of plant protection products on honeybees.

The objective of the European Commission's draft proposal was to introduce into European law the 2013 European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) guidelines to reduce the use of pesticides harmful to bees. In 2013, EFSA updated the risk assessment methodology accordingly, inter alia taking into account chronic effects on bees as well as adverse effects on bumblebees and solitary bees.

Parliament considered it unacceptable that Member States oppose the full implementation of the 2013 EFSA bee guidance and thereby impede the proper application of the approval criteria with regard to bees.

Members also regretted that the Commission did not make use of its powers, thereby effectively leading to 16 Member States, which nonetheless did not form a qualified majority, being successful in impeding the proper application of the approval criteria with regard to bees.

Parliament regretted that the draft Commission regulation only introduces modifications indicated in the 2013 EFSA bee guidance with regard to acute toxicity to honeybees, but remains silent on chronic toxicity to honeybees, as well as on toxicity to bumblebees and solitary bees. It also considered that the draft Commission regulation did not represent the most recent developments in scientific and technical knowledge, which, also undermined the purpose of that Regulation, namely to achieve a high level of protection of animal health and the environment.

On the basis of these considerations, Parliament opposed the adoption of the draft regulation and asked the Commission to withdraw its draft regulation and submit a new one to the Standing Committee without delay.

The Commission is called on to:

- ensure that the new draft is based on the latest scientific and technical knowledge, and thus proposes modifying the uniform principles not only with regard to acute toxicity for honeybees, as in the current draft, but at least also with regard to chronic toxicity and larval toxicity for honeybees and acute toxicity for bumblebees, in particular given that OECD test guidelines are available for all of those parameters;

- make full use of its powers under Decision 1999/468/EC to obtain the submission of a proper proposal for scrutiny by the European Parliament and the Council.