

Leaked Memo Shows EPA Doubts About Bee-Killing Pesticide

Over the concerns of its own scientists, the Environmental Protection Agency continues to approve a controversial pesticide introduced to U.S. markets shortly before the honeybee collapse, according to documents leaked to a Colorado beekeeper.

The memo, obtained by Colorado beekeeper Tom Theobald and publicized by the [Pesticide Action Network](#), was written in November by scientists from the EPA's Environmental Fate and Effects Division, who are considering Bayer's request to use clothianidin in cotton and mustard. They describe how a key Bayer safety study used by the EPA to justify its original clothianidin approvals, which were granted before the study was actually conducted, was sloppily designed and poorly run, making it a "supplemental" resource at best.

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