

September 19, 2019

Dennis Prouse
Vice-President, Government Affairs
CropLife Canada
350 Sparks Street, Suite 1201
Ottawa ON
K1R 7S8

Dear Mr. Prouse,

On behalf of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA)'s Board of Directors, thank you for the CropLife Canada presentation at our August 13, 2019 Board meeting. The Board greatly appreciated the background you provided in your presentation.

OFA supports your call on the Ontario government to remove the regulations that restrict the use of neonicotinoid-treated seed in Ontario under the Ontario Pesticides Act. The government's move to place neonic-treated seed into Class 12 resulted in increased costs for Ontario grain farmers. Class 12 pesticides can only be used when there is a demonstrated pest problem. As a result, Ontario grain farmers must incur costs to prove their need for treated seed. OFA has never endorsed the Ontario government's decision to classify neonic-treated seeds as Class 12 pesticides. We concur that the financial impact borne by grain farmers results in no significant benefit to our environment. Since this government decision was made, OFA has worked with the Ontario government to lessen the burden placed on Ontario grain farmers. Given Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency regulates all pesticides including neonicotinoid seed treatments, OFA supports the removal of these products from Ontario's Class 12.

Sincerely,



Keith Currie
President

cc: Markus Haerle, Chair, Grain Farmers of Ontario
OFA Board of Directors