

June 2020

## Statement regarding the use of neonicotinoids in the production of flower bulbs and perennials

### Summary

Three plant protection products containing four active substances classed as neonicotinoids were originally authorised for use in the Netherlands. One of these substances has a delivery period and term of use until 3 February 2021. In light of their legal authorisation, however, it will not be possible to guarantee that no neonicotinoids are being used in the production of products unless this can be demonstrated by such means as a certification procedure.

### Authorisation status

Currently, two plant protection products containing one of the two active substances classed as neonicotinoids are legally authorised for the production of flower bulbs in the Netherlands<sup>1</sup>. For perennials, three plant protection products containing one of two active substances classed as neonicotinoids are currently authorised.

#### Flower bulbs

Active substance	Plant protection product
acetamiprid	Gazelle (Antilop)
thiacloprid	Calypso (Bariard)

#### Perennials

Active substance	Plant protection product
acetamiprid	Gazelle
thiacloprid	Exemptor, Calypso

The plant protection products based on thiacloprid have a delivery period and term of use until 3 February 2021.

### Use

In the Netherlands, significant efforts are being devoted to reducing the use of plant protection products, including neonicotinoids. For instance, research is being carried out on environmentally friendly alternatives for plant protection products or methods.

<sup>1</sup> The Board for the Authorisation of Plant Protection Products and Biocides (Ctgb) in the Netherlands issues authorisations for plant protection products at the national level once the EFSA (the European authorisation authority) has authorised this at the EU level. The guiding principle in this authorisation is that the plant protection products authorised for use in the Netherlands will be safe for humans, animals and the environment. The Dutch Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (NVWA) monitors whether plant protection products are being used according to the rules. The NVWA and the Ctgb are government authorities.

More and more growers are focusing on sustainable crop protection and choosing to use products that are least harmful to bees and natural predators.

***Alternatives***

Alternatives to neonicotinoids are available for most crops. For certain crops, however, the use of neonicotinoids to control red spider mites and thrips remains necessary to maintain quality.

***Guarantees***

In light of the legal authorisation of neonicotinoids, it is not possible, of course, to guarantee that no neonicotinoids have been used in the production of flower bulbs or perennials unless this can be demonstrated by such means as a certification procedure.

We will be happy to provide further detail on the content of this message on request.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'H. Westerhof', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mr. H. Westerhof  
*Chairman Anthos*