



**2020/2662(RSP)**

20.5.2020

# **DRAFT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION**

pursuant to Rule 112(2) and (3) of the Rules of Procedure

on the draft Commission implementing regulation renewing the approval of the active substance pyriproxyfen in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market, and amending the Annex to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 540/2011 ((D066474/02 – 2020/2662(RSP))

**Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety**

Member responsible: Joëlle Mélin

**European Parliament resolution on the draft Commission implementing regulation renewing the approval of the active substance pyriproxyfen in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market, and amending the Annex to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 540/2011 (D066474/02) – 2020/2662(RSP)**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the draft Commission implementing regulation renewing the approval of the active substance pyriproxyfen in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market, and amending the Annex to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 540/2011 (D066474/02),
- having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market and repealing Council Directives 79/117/EEC and 91/414/EEC<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 20(1) thereof,
- having regard to Articles 11 and 13 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 laying down the rules and general principles concerning mechanisms for control by Member States of the Commission's exercise of implementing powers<sup>2</sup>,
- having regard to the peer review of the pesticide risk assessment of the active substance pyriproxyfen approved by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) on 17 May 2019, and published on 17 July 2019<sup>3</sup>,
- having regard to Rule 112(2) and (3) of its Rules of Procedure,
- having regard to the motion for a resolution of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety,

**Use and mode of action**

- A. whereas pyriproxyfen is a pesticide which is found to be effective against a variety of insects,
- B. whereas pyriproxyfen is a juvenile hormone analogue and an insect growth regulator<sup>4</sup> that prevents larvae from developing into adulthood and thus rendering them unable

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 309, 24.11.2009, p.1.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 55, 28.2.2011, p. 13.

<sup>3</sup> EFSA Journal 2019; 17(7):5732, <https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.2903/j.efsa.2019.5732>

<sup>4</sup> Cross, A., Bond, C., Buhl, K., Stone, D., 2015, Pyriproxyfen General Fact Sheet, National Pesticide Information Center, Oregon State University Extension Services, <http://npic.orst.edu/factsheets/pyriprogen.html>

to reproduce;

- C. whereas an insect growth regulator has a mode of action affecting the morphogenesis, reproduction and embryogenesis of insects;
- D. whereas in agriculture and horticulture, pyriproxyfen has registered uses for the control of scale, whitefly, bollworm, jassids, aphids and cutworms<sup>5</sup>;
- E. whereas pyriproxyfen is largely used on ‘citrus fruit, pome fruit (apple, pears), tomatoes, ornamentals (field use) and tomatoes, ornamentals (greenhouse application)’<sup>6</sup>;
- F. whereas pyriproxyfen is widely spread in European Union ultra-peripheral regions (RUPs) especially tropical regions to control mosquitoes;

### **Toxicity, endocrine-disrupting effects, impact on reproduction and health**

- G. whereas the peer review of the pesticide risk assessment of the active substance pyriproxyfen approved by EFSA on 17 May 2019, and published on 17 July 2019, concluded that it had a low acute toxicity for rat and mice, was unlikely to be teratogenic, had no reproductive toxicity, that, regarding neurotoxicity, no indication of a link between the active substance and the finding of microcephaly had been demonstrated, and there were no immunotoxicity effects<sup>7</sup>;
- H. whereas EFSA never considered the cocktail effect in its assessment;
- I. whereas several recent studies suggest that pyriproxyfen has an endocrine-disrupting effect<sup>8</sup>, an impact on neurodevelopment<sup>9</sup>, reproductive effects<sup>10</sup>, occasional survival risk<sup>11</sup>, and toxicity<sup>12</sup>, neurotoxicity<sup>13</sup>, teratogenic<sup>14,15</sup> effects;
- J. whereas a recent study shows that repeated exposure of pyriproxyfen to pregnant female mice causes developmental abnormalities in prenatal pups<sup>16</sup>;
- K. whereas a recent environmental risk assessment by the Brazilian authorities of pyriproxyfen in non-target aquatic organisms in May 2020 concluded that additional studies of contamination in aquatic environmental matrices were required, with particular attention to freshwater and estuarine environments due to the proximity to the sources of pyriproxyfen and environmental characteristics suggesting high accumulation;

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<sup>5</sup> [https://www.who.int/water\\_sanitation\\_health/dwq/chemicals/Pyriproxyfensum.pdf](https://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/dwq/chemicals/Pyriproxyfensum.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> <https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.2903/j.efsa.2019.5732>

<sup>7</sup> <https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.2903/j.efsa.2019.5732>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6880530/>

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5760164/>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/32197184>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/32197184>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6880530/>

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0269749116309794?via%3Dihub>

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5760164/>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6880530/>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/32382916>

- L. whereas malformations were detected in thousands of children from pregnant women living in areas where the Brazilian state had added pyriproxyfen to drinking water<sup>17</sup>;
- M. whereas specific provisions added to Annex 1 to the draft Commission implementing regulation renewing pyriproxyfen as an active substance highlighted health and environmental concerns and asked Member States to pay particular attention to dietary exposure of consumers to residues of pyriproxyfen, as well to the protection of sediment-dwelling organisms and aquatic organisms, and to the protection of bees;

### **Impact on bees and pollinators**

- N. whereas pyriproxifen is widespread in crops and orchards during the spring to prevent the larval development of parasites;
- O. whereas the spring period is crucial for the start of honey production due to blooming, for the vitality of the bee colonies, and for its important melliferous contribution;
- P. whereas recent studies shows that pyriproxyfen shortens the duration of larval development, increases malformations in emerging bees, and decreases participation in larval care<sup>18</sup>;
- Q. whereas pyriproxyfen also reduced the queen-starter-cell acceptance rate and the weight of royal jelly<sup>19</sup>;
- R. whereas Parliament in its resolution of 18 December 2019 on the EU Pollinators Initiative<sup>20</sup> stressed the urgent need to protect pollinators;

### **Precautionary principle and food contamination**

- S. whereas Article 191(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) sets out the precautionary principle as one of the fundamental principles of the Union;
- T. whereas Article 168(1) TFEU states that ‘a high level of human health protection shall be ensured in the definition and implementation of all Union policies and activities’;
- U. whereas Directive 2009/128/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>21</sup> aims to achieve a sustainable use of pesticides in the Union by reducing the risks and impacts of pesticide use on human health and the environment and by promoting the use of integrated pest management and alternative approaches or techniques, such as non-chemical alternatives to pesticides;

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<sup>17</sup> <http://reduas.com.ar/report-from-physicians-in-the-crop-sprayed-town-regarding-dengue-zika-microcephaly-and-massive-spraying-with-chemical-poisons/>

<sup>18</sup> [https://www6.inrae.fr/ecotox/content/download/3351/33909/version/1/file/2011%20FOURRIER\\_poster.pdf](https://www6.inrae.fr/ecotox/content/download/3351/33909/version/1/file/2011%20FOURRIER_poster.pdf)

<sup>19</sup> [http://zacharyhuang.com/pub/Chen\\_2016\\_The\\_impact\\_of\\_pyriproxyfen\\_on\\_the\\_development\\_of\\_honey\\_bee\\_colony\\_in\\_field.pdf](http://zacharyhuang.com/pub/Chen_2016_The_impact_of_pyriproxyfen_on_the_development_of_honey_bee_colony_in_field.pdf)

<sup>20</sup> Texts adopted, P9\_TA(2019)0104.

<sup>21</sup> Directive 2009/128/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009 establishing a framework for Community action to achieve the sustainable use of pesticides (OJ L 309, 24.11.2009, p. 71).

- V. whereas concerns exists about long-term stability of pesticides in honey<sup>22</sup>;
- W. whereas three-quarters of all honey on Earth has pesticides in it<sup>23</sup>;
1. Considers that the draft Commission implementing regulation exceeds the implementing powers provided for in Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009;
  2. Considers that the draft Commission implementing regulation is not consistent with Union law, in that it is not compatible with the aim and content of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009;
  3. Considers that the increase in toxicity to pollinators is the result of a cocktail effect<sup>24</sup> from the use of multiple pesticides and insecticides, including pyriproxyfen;
  4. Notes that the use of pyriproxyfen to target insects as a pesticide could affect pollinators, and be harmful to aquatic species when residues are present in water;
  5. Considers that the decision to renew the approval of the active substance pyriproxyfen cannot be justified, as there is insufficient evidence to suggest that unacceptable risks to animals, food safety and pollinators will be prevented;
  6. Calls on the Commission to withdraw its draft implementing regulation and to submit a new draft to the committee;
  7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and the Commission, and to the governments and parliaments of the Member States.

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<sup>22</sup> <https://phys.org/news/2019-02-long-term-stability-pesticides-honey.html>

<sup>23</sup> <https://www.theverge.com/2017/10/5/16424216/honey-neonicotinoids-contamination-honeybees-pollinators-environment>

<sup>24</sup> Traynor, K.S., Pettis, J.S., Tarpy, D.R., Mullin, C.A., Frazier, J.L., Frazier, M., van Engelsdorp, D., 'In-hive Pesticide Exposome: Assessing risks to migratory honey bees from in-hive pesticide contamination in the Eastern United States', Scientific Reports 6, 33207 (2016), <http://www.nature.com/articles/srep33207>