REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FOOD

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European Commission
DG SANCO
Unit E.3

Dear 5.1.2.e

Please find the preliminary information regarding bee poisoning situation in Slovenia

Report on bee poisoning incidents in the Republic of Slovenia in 2011

In the end of April authorities of Slovenia were informed of the massive bee poisoning in east part of the Republic of Slovenia. In total, 45 beekeepers with around 2500 beehives were affected. The investigation on possible cause no bees poisoning is still on going.

More than 35 samples dead bees, soil, water, treated plants, corn and oilseed rape seed, pollen from beehives and oilseed rape plants were taken. In all samples of dead bees the presence of active substance clothianidin was detected (samples which have been analyse up to now).

Currently available information indicates similar situation as in 2008.

Dou to above mention reasons; the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Food undertook precautionary measures to withdraw the placing on the market of products containing clothianidin and thiametoxam registered for seed treatment, and placing on the market and use of treated maize and oilseed rape seed treated with clothianidin, thiametoxam and imidacloprid.

It should be known, that numbers of risk mitigation measures were taken in 2009 to reduce possible exposures of bees to treated maize seed;

- Obligatory labelling of treated maize seed, including all risk and safety phrases,
- Quality standard for treated maize seed,
- Risk mitigation measures on farmer level and,
- Procedures for process of seed treatment.

Inspection control has not jet detected misuse of risk mitigation measures mention above.

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