



CANADIAN SEED TRADE ASSOCIATION
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September 10, 2013

The Honourable Gerry Ritz
Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food
House of Commons
Parliament Hill
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6
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Value Chain Roundtable on Honeybee Health:

Dear Minister Ritz,

In light of the recent events around pollinator mortality I write to you on behalf of CSTA, in support of CropLife Canada's proposal to create a new Value Chain Roundtable on Honeybee Health.

We all have a vested interest in the health and wellbeing of pollinators. They are critical for the production of many crops and for the overall success of the Canadian agriculture industry. With pressure mounting provincially in Quebec and Ontario regarding the potential negative impact of seed applied insecticides on the health of pollinators, specifically honeybees, we agree that it is necessary to create a Value Chain Roundtable at the federal level to facilitate a national discussion on honeybee health and agriculture.

The current roundtables in Quebec and Ontario are too narrowly focused on the regional impact of seed applied insecticides instead of discussing the other factors that affect bee health. A federal roundtable would allow all stakeholders to participate in an open and meaningful discussion on the current challenges and possible solutions to honeybee health and agriculture and the role industry has to play in promoting and maintaining safe and responsible farming practices.

Thank you for your consideration of this request to form a Value Chain Roundtable on Honeybee Health. I believe that you will find that the creation of this roundtable to be widely supported along the value chain.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Entz', written in a cursive style.

Peter Entz
President

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