

2019 Policy on Use of Bee-toxic Neonics by Largest Garden Centres across Canada (reported by number of outlets)

<p>Loblaw Companies Limited</p> 	<p>2,500 stores</p>	<p>Includes: Loblaws, Zehrs, Your Independent Grocer, Provigo, Atlantic Superstore, Fortinos, Dominion, Independent City Market, Valu-mart, ARZ Bakery, Wholesale Club, T&T Supermarket, Real Canadian Liquorstore, Real Canadian Superstore, No Frills, Maxi, Extra Foods and Shoppers Drug Mart.</p>
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Statement (same since 2016): The issue of pollinator health and neonicotinoids is of considerable concern for us and the agricultural industry. While it is widely used in agriculture, as an industry there is recognition that neonicotinoids might be present in plants sold across the country. Most of our vendors did confirm that an Integrated Pest Management system is in use whereby biological control (predator insects) are utilized and neonicotinoids are limited in their use, as a last resort and only on a subset of plants.

In 2014, we engaged Dr. Nigel Raine, a leading global expert on pollinators, to provide scientific guidance and advice on the appropriate role that Loblaws, as a retailer, can assume in reducing the risk to pollinators. With him and our internal team, we are developing a plan recognizing the limited alternatives that exist and the possibility of cross-contamination at various points in the supply chain.

Marissa Farrell, Senior Customer Care Representative

<p>Home Hardware</p> 	<p>1,500 stores</p>	<p>Includes: Independent small business operators from every corner of Canada, who operate under one of four banners: Home Hardware, Home Hardware Building Centre, Home Building Centre and Home Furniture.</p>
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Statement: I wanted to confirm that our policy hasn't changed.

Our distributions centres, which provide product to our nearly 1,100 stores across Canada (including their garden centres) remain 100% neonicotinoid-free.

Jessica Kuepfer, Public Relations Manager

<p>Costco Wholesale</p> 	<p>770 stores</p>	<p>Costco Stores</p>
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Statement: “Suppliers are encouraged to phase out the use of neonicotinoids and chlorpyrifos (an insecticide),” Costco said on [its website](#). “We seek to partner with suppliers who share our commitment to pollinator health and IPM (integrated pest management).”

<p>Lowe’s</p> 	<p>630 stores</p>	<p>Rona and Reno Depot</p>
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Statement: Thank you for your inquiry regarding our actions on Neonics.

Yes, we are Neonics free on all our live goods and seeds in our Lowe's, RONA and Reno-Depot corporate stores across Canada.

Thank you,

Jules Foisy Lapointe, Directeur, Développement durable - Director, Corporate Social Responsibility chez Lowe’s Companies Canada

<p>Canadian Tire</p> 	<p>500 stores</p>	<p>Canadian Tire Stores</p>
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Statement: As you are aware, Canadian Tire adheres to all current regulations surrounding the sale of cosmetic pesticides in our stores. When it comes to the use of neonicotinoid pesticides, Canadian Tire follows all regulations set out by Health

Canada’s Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) as well as current provincial regulations.

Over the past several years, we have been working with our suppliers to increase the number of plants in our assortment that are not treated with neonicotinoids. Based on the most recent supplier survey, 87% of the plants sold at our stores have not been exposed to neonicotinoid pesticides during their care. Of the remaining plants that may have been exposed to spot use, only a small percentage would have been exposed to neonicotinoids and as a result we believe that over 95% of the plants we sell are neonicotinoid-free.

Additionally, we have heard that many of the large international propagation companies are starting to use alternative pesticides. We have confirmation that the top three breeders for our core programs no longer use any neonics at their propagation farms, reducing the chance of their plants being exposed to neonicotinoid pesticides during the seed or cutting start of the product life cycle.

Canadian Tire continues to monitor information on neonicotinoid pesticides and to work with industry, vendors and regulators to reduce any impacts to the environment.

Robyn Collver, SVP Risk and Regulatory Affairs and Chief Sustainability Officer

<p>Walmart</p> 	<p>400 stores</p>	<p>Includes: Walmart and Walmart Superstores</p>
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Statement: In May 2017, Walmart confirmed to Friends of the Earth U.S. that its growers have eliminated neonics from approximately 80 percent of its garden plants. No specific response on garden plants sold in Canada.

<p>Sobeys Inc.</p> 	<p>256 stores</p>	<p>Includes: Sobeys, Safeway, IGA, Foodland, FreshCo, Thrifty Foods and Lawton’s Drug Stores</p>
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Statement: No response

<p>Home Depot THE HOME DEPOT</p>	<p>182 stores</p>	<p>Home Depot Stores</p>
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Statement: Through partnerships with our suppliers, Home Depot has made tremendous progress on removing neonics from plants and they are now 98 percent free of neonicotinoids. Since there are states (California and Florida) that require some plants be treated with neonics, for example, citrus trees, Home Depot will tag these plants to provide notice for consumers. Since these seasonal and perennial plants are not sold in abundance in Canada, it is expected that almost 100% of Home Depot plants sold in Canada are neonic free, but the select few that are not, will be labelled for consumers.

Ron Jarvis, Home Depot VP Merchandising and Sustainability, Home Depot

<p>Kent Building Supplies</p> 	<p>50 stores</p>	<p>Kent Building Supplies stores</p>
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Statement: No response

<p>Botanix Garden Centres</p> 	<p>30 stores</p>	<p>Serres Lambert Inc., Comptoir richelieu Inc., Scardera Fleurs et Jardins, Pépinière Dorobi, etc.</p>
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Statement: No response

<p>Art Knapp Plantland</p> 	<p>15 stores</p>	<p>Art Knapp Stores</p>
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Statement: No response

<p>Sheridan Nurseries</p> 	<p>9 stores</p>	<p>Sheridan Nurseries</p>
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Statement: I can assure you that all plants grown by Sheridan Nurseries are neonics free. As well, our main bedding plant supplier, Linwell Gardens, assures us that they are Neonics free and the seed they use have not been treated with neonics.

We are also at the mercy of what our suppliers tell us regarding their neonic practices. I would be remiss in guaranteeing any specific practices that I do not have direct knowledge of the specific details.

Therefore the answer to your question is that to our knowledge, the majority of our plants are neonics free.

We have also embarked on a program to ask all of our plant suppliers to confirm in writing if their plants are neonicotinoid free.

Colin Cruji, CEO & President