

Chapter 626

(House Bill 208)

AN ACT concerning

Agriculture – Neonicotinoid Pesticides – Sale and Storage

FOR the purpose of restricting a person that sells a neonicotinoid pesticide under certain provisions of law to selling a neonicotinoid pesticide only to a certain certified applicator or farmer; requiring a person selling a neonicotinoid pesticide to store a neonicotinoid pesticide in a certain manner; making stylistic and conforming changes; defining certain terms; and generally relating to neonicotinoid pesticides.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Agriculture
Section 5–201(a), (c), and (r)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2016 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Agriculture
Section 5–2A–01 and 5–2A–02
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2016 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Agriculture

5–201.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(c) “Certified applicator” means a person who is certified by the Secretary under this subtitle.

(r) “Restricted use pesticide” means a pesticide so classified by the provisions in this title or by the federal government or the Secretary of Agriculture, State of Maryland.

5–2A–01.

(A) In this subtitle[, “neonicotinoid] THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) “CERTIFIED APPLICATOR” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 5–201 OF THIS TITLE.

(C) “NEONICOTINOID pesticide” means any pesticide containing a chemical belonging to the neonicotinoid class of chemicals, including:

- (1) Imidacloprid;
- (2) Nithiazine;
- (3) Acetamiprid;
- (4) Clothianidin;
- (5) Dinotefuran;
- (6) Thiacloprid;
- (7) Thiamethoxam; and

(8) Any other chemical designated by the Department as belonging to the neonicotinoid class of chemicals.

(D) “RESTRICTED USE PESTICIDE” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 5–201 OF THIS TITLE.

5–2A–02.

(a) [(1)] This section does not apply to:

[(i)] (1) Pet care products used to mitigate fleas, mites, ticks, heartworms, or other animals that are harmful to the health of a domesticated animal;

[(ii)] (2) Personal care products used to mitigate lice and bedbugs;
and

[(iii)] (3) Indoor pest control products used to mitigate insects indoors, including ant bait.

[(2)] (B) (1) On or after January 1, 2018, a person may not sell at retail in the State a neonicotinoid pesticide unless the person also sells a restricted use pesticide[, as defined in § 5–201 of this title].

(2) A PERSON THAT SELLS A NEONICOTINOID PESTICIDE UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION:

(I) MAY SELL A NEONICOTINOID PESTICIDE ONLY TO A CERTIFIED APPLICATOR OR A FARMER; AND

(II) SHALL STORE EACH NEONICOTINOID PESTICIDE ~~BEHIND THE COUNTER AND~~ IN A MANNER THAT IS INACCESSIBLE TO A CUSTOMER WITHOUT THE ASSISTANCE FROM THE PERSON OR AN EMPLOYEE OF THE PERSON.

[(b)] (C) On or after January 1, 2018, a person may not use a neonicotinoid pesticide unless the person is:

(1) A certified applicator or a person working under the supervision of a certified applicator[, as defined in § 5–201 of this title];

(2) A farmer, or a person under the supervision of a farmer, who uses the pesticide for agricultural purposes, including crop production, livestock, poultry, equine, and noncrop agricultural fields; or

(3) A veterinarian.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2021.

Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 30, 2021.