Neonicotinoid Seed Coatings in U.S. Agriculture

• Most commodity crop seeds in U.S. market are coated with neonicotinoids
• Minimal choice for U.S. farmers
• New research shows little to no benefit
• More options with nonGMO crops and markets
Concentration in U.S. Seed Industry

5 companies account for close to 80% of all soybean and corn seed sales in U.S.

Percent of 2013 U.S. Soybean Seed Market
- DuPont: 35%
- Monsanto: 20%
- AgReliant: 10%
- Syngenta: 5%
- Dow AgroSciences: 3%
- Local Producers: 27%

Percent of 2013 U.S. Corn Seed Market
- DuPont: 36%
- Monsanto: 11%
- AgReliant: 6%
- Syngenta: 7%
- Dow AgroSciences: 5%
- Local Producers: 35%
Neonic Use in the Farm Belt

CORN

From USGS Pesticide National Synthesis Project
Neonic Use in the Farm Belt

From USGS Pesticide National Synthesis Project
Corn and Neonicotinoids

• Studies showing little or no benefit to corn farmers
  – Purdue researcher Krupke found no difference in yields between treated and untreated corn seed
  – Center for Food Safety “Heavy Costs” report has similar findings
Soybeans and Neonicotinoids

- EPA study released October 2014

  “EPA concludes that these seed treatments provide little or no overall benefits to soybean production in most situations.”

  http://www2.epa.gov/pollinator-protection/benefits-neonicotinoid-seed-treatments-soybean-production
Choices DO Exist in nonGMO seeds

• Little choice apparently available if growing GMO corn (especially from largest seed companies)
• More choice available for nonGMO options and from independent seed dealers
  – Offer non-treated as well as custom coating options