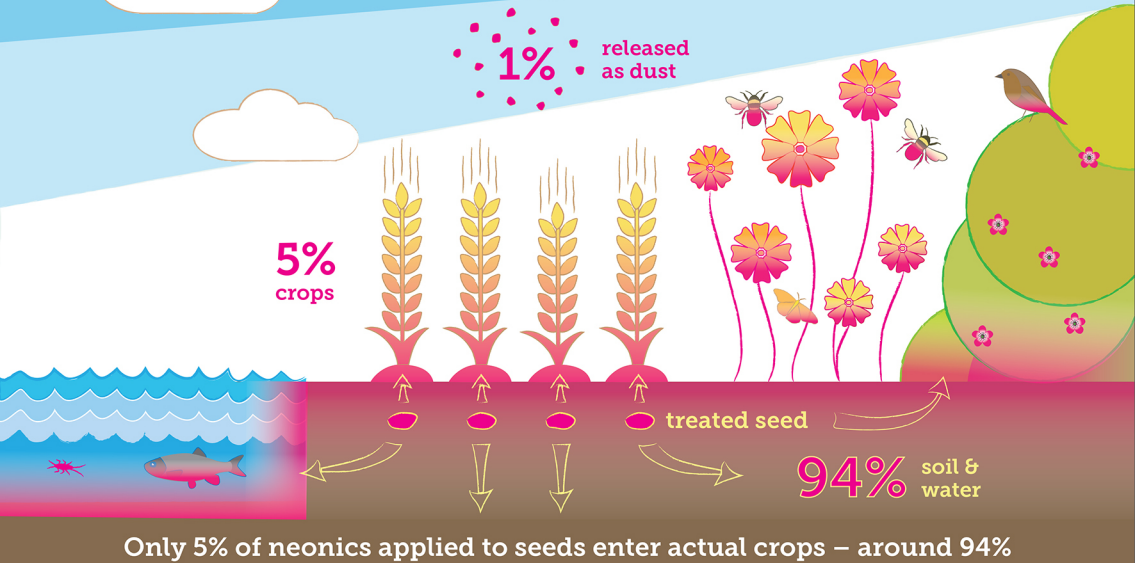


THE SECRET POISONING OF OUR COUNTRYSIDE

Something unthinkable is happening.
Crop seeds are *still* being covered with brightly coloured, nicotine-based insecticides (neonicotinoids or 'neonics') that escape the plant and spread across our countryside

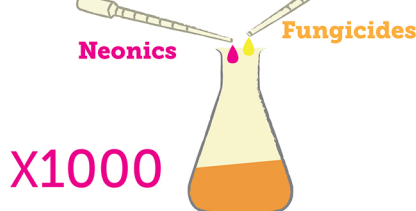


Only 5% of neonics applied to seeds enter actual crops – around 94% seep into the soil and water and 1% enter the air as highly toxic dust

Most neonics are still being used by UK farmers

Soil Association funded research has revealed our countryside contains a cocktail of chemicals, with bees ingesting up to 10 different types

Prior research suggests some of the mixtures may **increase the toxicity of neonicotinoids by up to 1000x**



Other pesticides may be making the impact of neonics even more devastating

OUR HEDGEROWS ARE BEING POISONED

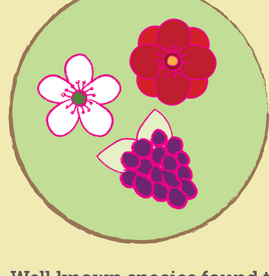
Hedgerows are potential deathtraps for bees, butterflies and other wildlife



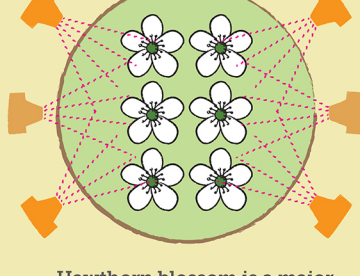
Nearly **1 in 10** wildflower pollen samples near treated wheat contain a neonicotinoid



100% of soil samples from hedgerows have been found to contain neonics



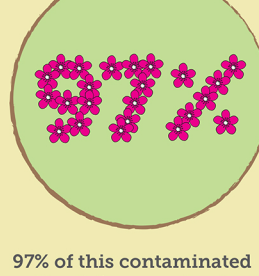
Well known species found to be contaminated with neonics include **blackberries, poppies and hawthorn blossom**



Hawthorn blossom is a major source of pollen for bees and has been found to contain **up to six different types of insecticides and fungicides**



Mixtures of neonics and fungicides have been found in **100% of pollen samples** collected by bees on farms where neonics are used



97% of this contaminated pollen is from **contaminated wildflowers** - not treated crops

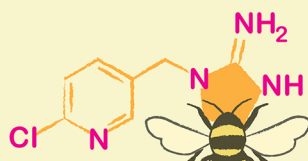
OUR WILDLIFE IS BEING POISONED

Our wildlife is already declining due to intensive farming, climate change and new diseases. Neonicotinoids are the last straw

A current EU ban on neonics is only partial - did you know around **63% of seed treatments are still allowed?** A quarter of all cereal crops are treated – covering an area almost half the size of Wales



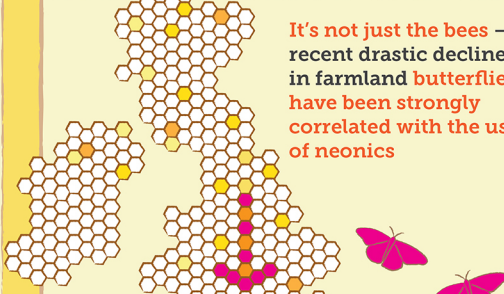
The UK government continues to sit on the fence – **despite the mounting evidence**



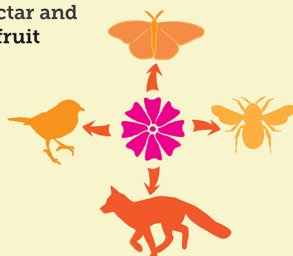
Studies have shown neonics reduce numbers of wild bees by contaminating pollen at doses which **damage their ability to navigate, learn and reproduce**



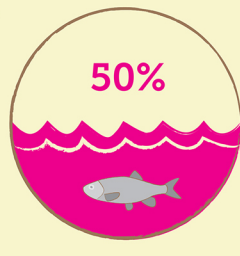
It's **not just the bees** – recent drastic declines in farmland **butterflies** have been strongly correlated with the use of neonics



Neonics impact all species that chew the plant, sip its sap, drink its nectar and eat its pollen or fruit



UK streams remain unsurveyed, yet in the USA **half of streams** have been found to be contaminated with neonics



In the Netherlands, high concentrations of neonics in streams have been linked to **rapid declines in bird populations**, possibly due to insect poisoning depleting the birds' food supply



FULLY BAN NEONICOTINOIDS NOW

We work with farmers to create healthy farmland and countryside which isn't reliant on pesticides

Help us stop the use of neonicotinoids and save our living landscapes

PLEASE TAKE ACTION AND JOIN US TODAY

