

The Buzz on Neonicitoids

Neonicotinoid insecticides have been in the news lately for causing pollinator deaths in some landscape applications. Commercial operations, municipalities and environmental groups are calling for bans. However, they are also a mainstay of agricultural production because of their efficacy and a mode of action that improves their human and environmental health ratings. Decisions are being made without the appropriate research base, which has led to increased research into the environmental fate of neonicotinoids in a variety of crops. I will cover some of the research that has been done on neonics in the production and use of ornamentals and some of the responses by researchers and growers to the issue.