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**From:** Jones, Enesta [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=65B8E6C6E5CA4A7A9AE85D98A4C8EEDB-EJONES02]  
**Sent:** 9/22/2017 8:23:26 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] **Ex. 6**  
**CC:** Press [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b293283291dc44e0b5d1c36be9281d8a-Press]  
**Subject:** Press Inquiry about Bees

Apologies for the delay, Dave. I am sending this on behalf of Robert Daguillard. Our response is attributable to an EPA spokesperson: Our response to the GAO report, including individual responses to each of its recommendations, is included in the report as Appendix V.

**From:** Dave Weinstock [mailto:[REDACTED]] **Ex. 6**  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 31, 2017 9:38 AM  
**To:** Daguillard, Robert <Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Press Inquiry about Bees

Robert:

As I mentioned to you on the phone, I'm working on a story on fungicides and bee mortality for [Fruit Growers News](#).

In the course of my interviews, I found a GAO report released in February 2016 that suggested EPA could do more toward "reducing the risk of unreasonable harm to [bees]" by pesticides and other crop protection chemicals.

Here's a link to the report:

<https://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-16-220>

My questions relate specifically to a recommendation on page 45-46 in which GAO notes EPA could be doing a lot more to assure pollinator survival.

My questions here are:

- (1) Have ring tests (to assess the acute contact and oral toxicity of pesticides to bumble bees) been incorporated into EPA's risk assessment process?
- (2) Has EPA developed (and implemented) a plan for obtaining data from pesticide registrants on the effects of pesticides on non-honey bee species, including other managed or wild, native bees, into its risk assessment process?
- (3) When will/does EPA require pesticide/fungicide manufacturers to address risks of tank mixtures (on their labels).
- (4) Has it begin to obtain data on synergistic toxicity increases when fungicides are mixed with pesticides? Are there plans to require labeling referring to that problem? What is the timeline on that?
- (5) What is EPA's thinking on recent research pointing to sub-lethal effects on bees by adjuvants, surfactants and inerts in pesticides?

I'll be wrapping this story up tomorrow around 3 p.m. Thanks, in advance, for whatever information you can dig up for me.

Dave

Journalist, educator, consultant  
"Talk is cheap; free speech isn't."