



The Kroger Family of Companies

## **Commitment to Phase Out Neonicotinoid Treated Outdoor Plants**

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The Kroger Co. recognizes the global honey bee population is vulnerable, with research indicating that a cause may include the use of pesticides containing neonicotinoids. Due to the potential risk to the honey bee population, we are committing to eliminate the sourcing of live outdoor plants in our stores and garden centers that have been treated with pesticides containing these neonicotinoids by the year 2020. This policy is inclusive of outdoor plants known to be pollinated by honey bees or known to attract honey bees.

Today, the majority of live plant sales in Kroger's garden center and outdoor floral selection are not treated with neonicotinoids during the growing process. Our suppliers are actively seeking alternative options for the remaining products, and we are committed to working with them to ensure proper alternatives have been identified by 2020. We will also track, measure and report on our progress against this commitment.

Kroger will rely on the expertise of the U.S Environmental Protection Agency and other scientific experts to evaluate any possible updates to this policy.