

SKELETONS

Ministry of Agriculture

The Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture has a potential conflict of interest – ties to pesticide wholesalers, e.g. his wife owns one of the biggest pesticide wholesalers).

Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development

They would like to get support from the Ministry of Agriculture in one other policy area, and therefore are not in favour of making too big fight with them.

Beekeepers Association

Neonics are found in their products (pollen); they are not willing to talk about it, since it threatens their market; on the other hand, it is evidence that pollution with neonics is present in environment.

Big Farmers Association

The State Audit Office has found out that the Ministry of Agriculture pays large, vaguely justified sums to agricultural NGOs, they are among the recipients, and not interested to lose this money. In recent years the concentration process in agriculture was going on – the number of big farms increased, the small ones decreased, and the number of work places decreased – pesticide intensive agriculture saves on work places, this is their profit.

Traders of Pesticides

They are very much aware of hazards of pesticides but try to hide them.

Organic Farmers

They are afraid, if they protest against Big Farmers and the Ministry of Agriculture, they will lose some subsidies and grants.

Journalists

Some of them got grants from the Lugovia Environmental Protection Foundation, and pesticide producers and big farmers might blame them for not being objective.