

Study examines pesticides' impact on wood frogs

March 1 2017



A Wood Frog recently metamorphosed to a little frog. Credit: Stacey Robinson

A new study looks at how neonicotinoid pesticides affect wood frogs, which use surface waters in agricultural environments to breed and

reproduce. Neonicotinoids are widely used insecticides that are applied to a variety of crops and are relatively persistent in the environment.

The study found that some neonicotinoids may cause developmental delays in the frogs, but these are not necessarily detrimental. Additional studies are needed to investigate the direct and indirect effects of neonicotinoids on [wood frogs](#) and other amphibian populations.

"The slight delay in development may not be cause for concern on its own; however, in the natural environment, additional stressors such as mixtures of pesticides, predators, or parasites can contribute to further delays," said Dr. Stacey Robinson, lead author of the *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry* article. "Such cumulative stressors are important to consider in understanding the potential impact on [amphibian populations](#)."

More information: Stacey A. Robinson et al, Sublethal effects on wood frogs chronically exposed to environmentally relevant concentrations of two neonicotinoid insecticides, *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry* (2017). [DOI: 10.1002/etc.3739](https://doi.org/10.1002/etc.3739)

Provided by Wiley

Citation: Study examines pesticides' impact on wood frogs (2017, March 1) retrieved 18 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2017-03-pesticides-impact-wood-frogs.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.