

House Agriculture, Water & Natural Resources

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HB25-1134 Insect Production Human Consumption

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
<p>Sharyn Murray For themselves</p>	<p>Dear Chair McCormick and Members of the Committee,</p> <p>I am writing to express my strong support for HB25-1134, the Colorado Agricultural Heritage Protection Act. As a Colorado resident, I am deeply concerned about the impact industrial insect farming could have on our state’s water resources, agricultural economy, and public health. This legislation is essential to protecting Colorado’s agricultural heritage and ensuring the responsible use of our limited natural resources.</p> <p>Water scarcity is one of the most pressing challenges facing Colorado. Research shows that while conventional compound feed crops such as corn, wheat, and soy require only 2 gallons of water per pound of product, insect farming demands between 48 and 96 gallons per pound—up to 45 times more water. Given the ongoing struggles of Colorado’s farmers and ranchers to secure sufficient water for their operations, we cannot afford to allocate precious water resources to an industry with such extreme inefficiencies.</p> <p>Beyond water concerns, HB25-1134 is crucial for safeguarding Colorado’s \$47 billion agricultural economy and 195,000 agricultural jobs. Traditional farmers and ranchers are already operating under narrow margins, and the expansion of industrial insect farming facilities would further strain resources. These facilities compete for agricultural byproducts, water, and energy, increasing costs for established agricultural producers and potentially disrupting local food systems.</p> <p>Additionally, industrial insect farming poses serious environmental and public health risks. Scientific studies have documented the following concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Over 80% of insect farms harbor parasites, with 30% containing parasites that could affect humans.- These facilities present significant biosecurity risks, with documented cases of pathogen transmission to livestock.- Escaped farmed insects pose genetic contamination risks to native insect populations.

	<p>- Heavy metal bioaccumulation in insect farming operations threatens soil and water quality.</p> <p>Colorado must prioritize responsible agricultural practices that sustain our state’s economy, environment, and public health. The risks associated with industrial insect farming are too great to ignore, and I urge you to support HB25-1134 to protect Colorado’s agricultural future.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p> <p>Sincerely, Sharyn</p>
<p>Connor Lynch For themselves</p>	<p>Support this bill please. Colorado isn’t the place for insect farming like this. High humidity and lots of water make this project more appropriate elsewhere. The risk for spread of disease is also far outweighed by any reward.</p>