

Oranges
93%

Pesticide Residues

43% OF ALL VEGETABLES AND FRUIT CONTAIN DETECTABLE LEVELS OF PESTICIDES



Pesticide Residues from more than 7 chemicals

19 hormone disrupting pesticides

(Endocrine System Disrupters) have been identified by the European Union. Evidence of endocrine disrupting includes genital abnormalities, decreasing sperm counts and semen quality.



Pesticide Residues

Aldicarb

commonly used on potatoes, without warning signs, is one of the most acutely toxic pesticides ever manufactured: less than a gramme is enough to kill a dog.



Pesticide Residues

14,500 tonnes of Sulphuric Acid are used on UK potatoes every year

TOXIC WATER

Rainwater in parts of Europe contains such high levels of dissolved pesticides that it would be illegal to supply it as drinking water. Lindane has been found in rainwater in Spain.



Pesticide Residues

ROUNDUP...very low doses of glyphosate were toxic to either human embryonic cells, foetal cells or placental cells.

PROFESSOR GILLES-ERIC SERALINI EVALUATION OF GLYPHOSATE (ROUNDUP) USED WITH GMOs

Pesticides in Your Food

Apples
78%

Pesticide Residues



31,000 tonnes of pesticides are sprayed on UK land every year

Long-term effects of regular exposure to pesticides often cause chronic illnesses, including cancer, reproductive and neurological effects. The World Health Organisation believes that pesticides cause 772,000 new cases of disease each year.

Exposure to pesticide drift, even at minute dose levels, has been linked by medical researchers to birth defects, cancer and sterility. Research in US has shown that in a zone of up to 154 metres around application sites, airborne concentrations of pesticides MITC, chlorpyrifos and diazinon exceeded official Reference Exposure Levels for adults and/or children.



Pesticide Residues Imazalil - one pesticide listed as likely cancer causing by US EPA

Medical opinions

The Ontario College of Family Physicians strongly recommends that people reduce their exposure to pesticides wherever possible after finding consistent links to serious illnesses such as cancer, reproductive problems and neurological diseases.

The British Medical Association says, 'We do not know whether many pesticides are harmful or not in day-to-day use.'



Pesticide Residues Increase from 38% in 2001

Cocktail Effect

Studies have shown combinations of low-level insecticides, herbicides and nitrates can affect our bodies in ways chemicals in isolation do not. Studies have shown that three pesticides consumed together equal up to 100 times the effect of any one on its own.



Pesticide Residues Banned Lindane is found in most non-organic chocolate



Pesticides are a global HAZARD

Seals and cod in the Arctic Circle have pesticide residues as these chemicals are transported on wind, rain and ocean currents from more southern latitudes.



Pesticide Residues Farmed salmon have 16 x more PCBs (persistent cancer-causing toxins) than wild salmon

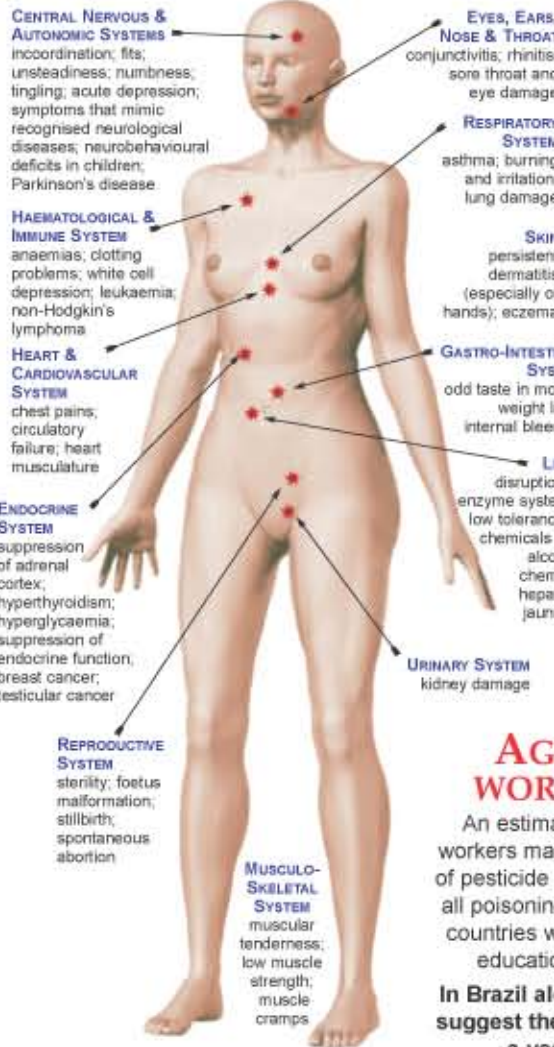
ENVIRONMENT WORKING GROUP 'PCBS IN FARMED SALMON' 2001

SYMPTOMS OF CHRONIC TOXICITY

SAFETY TESTING OF PESTICIDES ASSUME HEALTHY ADULTS
It does not take into account vulnerable groups whose hormonal systems are rapidly changing: **FOETUSES BABIES ADOLESCENTS OLD AND INFIRM**

Children's exposure to pesticides from all pathways (food, water, air, other) are likely to be higher, because they eat more food, drink more water, and breathe more air per pound of body weight."

S. KEGLEY, A. KAITEN, M. MOSES, SECONDHAND PESTICIDES: AIRBORNE PESTICIDE DRIFT IN CALIFORNIA, 2003



150 pesticides have been identified as potential human carcinogens

US EPA

One teaspoon of agricultural pesticide poured down the drain, could contaminate the drinking water of 200,000 people for a day

AGRICULTURAL WORKERS AT RISK

An estimated 25 million agricultural workers may suffer at least one incident of pesticide poisoning each year. 99% of all poisoning cases occur in developing countries where regulatory, health and education systems are weakest.

In Brazil alone, the Ministry of Health suggest there are 300,000 poisonings a year and 5,000 deaths.

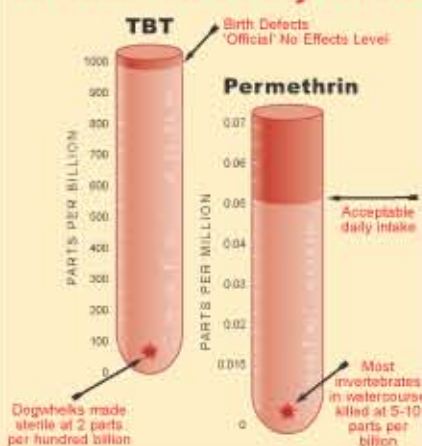
Are Safety Levels Safe?

BANNED

37 pesticides have been banned in the UK and 50% of the 1000 pesticides registered across the EU have been phased out over the last 10 years.

- 1986 DDT BANNED Toxic persistent organochlorine, probable carcinogen.
- 1988 CYHEXATIN BANNED Evidence of birth defects.
- 1991 ALDRIN BANNED Organochlorine, classified as a probable carcinogen.
- 2002 LINDANE BANNED Toxic persistent organochlorine, probable carcinogen. Suspected to cause breast cancer.

2 examples of pesticide with adverse effects at much lower levels than established safety levels



FROGS CHANGE SEX WITH ATRAZINE

A herbicide used widely to kill weeds in maize, is turning frogs into hermaphrodites

Studies on frogs indicate that concentrations of atrazine as low as 0.1 parts per billion (one tenth of a teaspoon in an Olympic-sized swimming pool) causes males to develop female sexual characteristics. This concentration is allowed in drinking water in the UK.

Violation of Your Fundamental Human Rights

At present there is no legal requirement for pesticide users to: 1. Notify the public in advance of spraying. 2. Disclose to those affected which chemical has been used. 3. Leave no-spray safety zones.

SUPPORT PESTICIDE ACTION NETWORK UK

An independent, non-profit organisation which promotes healthy food, agriculture and an environment not dependent on toxic chemicals.

admin@pan-uk.org www.pan-uk.org

DDT has been found in 67% of feta cheese samples

WORKING PARTY ON PESTICIDE RESIDUES ANNUAL REPORT 1999



Copyright PAN UK 2004 Poster designed and printed by The Sheepshead Trust

All references to facts and figures can be found at www.pan-uk.org/poster.htm