## "Organic Pesticide" is not an Oxymoron

Gary Fish



## Do organic growers use pesticides?

- Over 25% of OMRI listed products are pest management products
- 312 are registered by EPA as pesticides
- 188 are registered as pesticides in Maine
- 139 of the pesticide products are not registered by EPA and should not be used to control pests in the US





## Organic produce may contain organic pesticide residues

- According to the **2008 USDA** Pesticide Data **Program Report:** 
  - 43% of organic spinach samples were positive for spinosad

(13 of 30 samples positive)



A Naturalyte® insect control product formulated for the organic grower for control of lepidopterous larvae (worms or caterpillars), leafminers, thrips, and red

This bag [container] is not for individual resale.

U.S. Patent No. 5,362,634 and 5,496,931

(a mixture of spinosyn A and spinosyn D) Contains 80% active ingredient on a weight basis.

Listed by the Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI) for use in organic production.

Keep Out of Reach of Children

#### Agricultural Use Requirements

Use this product only in accordance with its labeling and with the Worker Protection Standard, 40 CFR Part 170. Refer to the label booklet under "Agricultural Use Requirements" in the Directions for Use section for information about this standard.

Refer to inside of label booklet for additional precautionary information including Directions for Use.

Notice: Read the entire label. Use only according to label directions. Before using this product, read Warranty Disclaimer, Inherent Risks of Use, and Limitation of Remedies at end of label booklet. If terms are unacceptable, return at once unopened.

In case of emergency endangering health or the environment involving this product, call 1-800-992-5994. If you wish to obtain additional product information, visit our web site at www.dowagro.com.

EPA Reg. No. 62719-282

900-014240 / 00216558

Trademark of Dow AgroSciences LLC Produced for Dow AgroSciences LLC 9330 Zionsville Road Indianapolis, IN 46268



## Are botanical pesticides risky?

- Pyrethrin has a changing cancer rating
  - EPA now ranks it as a carcinogen at doses that cause increased cell division in the liver
- It has also been shown to be a thyroid hormone disruptor



#### Crop Protection EC 5.0<sub>II</sub>

#### Specimen Label

- Contains pyrethrins—a botanical insecticide derived from chrysanthemums
- Provides rapid knockdown and kill of plant pests
- For use on growing crops and ornamentals
- Can be used on day of harvest
- Kills key livestock pests



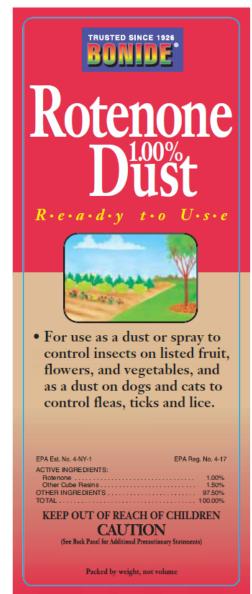


#### ACTIVE INGREDIENT:

Pyrethrins	5.0	0%
OTHER INGREDIENTS	95.0	0%
	100.0	0%

### Are botanical pesticides risky?

- Old standby botanical insecticide
- In 2006 the manufacturers/distributors voluntarily canceled the registration
- Why? In 2004 EPA required an inhalation neuro-toxicity study.
  - Looking at Parkinson's Disease-like symptoms.
  - Dust products are of particular concern for inhalation exposure.
  - Because of fetal sensitivity EPA required a 10X reduction in exposure potential



## Are "organic" fungicides risky?

- Copper is an element, so it does not degrade in the soil
- Since 2006 the EU has severely restricted use of copper fungicides (5.4 lbs/Ac/Yr) and Holland and Denmark have banned them



#### Battling blight the organic way



An example of the blight-free potatoes

Potato late blight is a serious disease in both conventional and organic agriculture, causing drastic crop loss as the Irish potato famine of 1845 most graphically demonstrated. Organic production of potatoes has long relied on copper based fungicides to control blight, but the negative impact of the accumulation of copper in perennial crops (e.g. grapevine and top fruit) led, in March

2002, to a ban on their use in organic agriculture across Europe. Organic potato producers must learn to control blight without copper while maintaining the yields required to remain competitive. A Europe-wide project, funded via the European Commission's Key Action Five programme, is underway that seeks to develop new strategies for the long-term control of potato blight in organic agriculture.

## Are "organic" fungicides risky?

## Soil accumulation is especially pronounced in perennial crops





## Recent research shows the environmental hazards of copper fungicides

- Copper concentrations are higher in many agricultural soils
- In the lab copper significantly harms soil organisms (especially earthworms)
- Field results for soils over
  50 ppm of copper have clear effects on earthworms
- 20 36% of copper fungicides can run off from plastic mulch and harm aquatic life

Environmental Fate and Ecological Impact of Copper Hydroxide: Use of Management Practices to Reduce the Transport of Copper Hydroxide in Runoff from Vegetable Production

Pamela J. Rice<sup>1</sup>, Jennifer A. Harman-Fetcho<sup>2</sup>, Lynne P. Heighton<sup>2</sup>, Laura L. McConnell<sup>2</sup>, Ali M. Sadeghi<sup>2</sup>, and Cathleen J. Hapeman<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, St. Paul, MN 55108;

<sup>2</sup>Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, MD 20705

Vegetable production practices combining copper-based pesticides with polyethylene mulch create conditions for highly toxic runoff emissions to surface waters. Copper hydroxide is a widely used fungicide-bactericide approved for both organic and conventional agricultural production of vegetable crops for control of diseases. Copper-based pesticides are often viewed as more "natural" than synthetic organic pesticides, but aquatic biota, such as the saltwater bivalve Mercenaria mercenaria, are extremely sensitive to low concentrations of copper. The use of polyethylene mulch in organic and traditional vegetable production is gaining popularity because it decreases pesticide use and warms the soil allowing for earlier crop planting, but its use also increases runoff volume and soil erosion. Two field studies were conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of management practices to reduce loads of copper in runoff from tomato production. Seasonal runoff losses of 20 to 36% of applied copper hydroxide were observed in tomato plots using plastic mulch with bare soil furrows. The addition of vegetative furrows between the raised, polyethylene-covered beds or the replacement of polyethylene mulch with vegetative residue

## Essential oil pesticides

- Some pesticides have been deregulated by EPA
  - FIFRA 25(b) Exempt
  - Exempt from Federal registration
  - Exempt from toxicity testing
  - Some are OMRI listed



#### Ingredients in these products

- Rosemary oil
- Peppermint oil
- Thyme oil
- Clove oil
- Wintergreen oil
- Cinnamon oil

### What do we know about the risks?

- Not enough since they are exempt from toxicity tests
- Rosemary oil not well tested
- Peppermint oil
  - sensitization.
  - irritant.
  - lung damage,
  - not recommended for children, infants or during pregnancy or breast feeding
- Clove oil -
  - allergic reactions,
  - not good for people with liver or kidney disorders.
  - increases bleeding risks,
  - interacts with drugs,
  - contains eugenol which when methylated becomes a potent carcinogen



Introducing EcoSMART® ORGANIC Garden Insect Killer

Now there is an organic insecticide that is safe to use around children and pets and won't harm the environment. EcoSMART® ORGANIC" Garden Insect Killer is made from a patented blend of organic plant oils. It kills bugs fast, without any synthetic toxins or harmful residue. It's safe. It's effective. It's smart. Naturally.

To learn more about **Ecosmart** and its entire portfolio of organic pesticide products, please visit our web site at www.ecosmart.com.

Register to win free EcoSMART product at ecosmart.com/garden

#### FRESH NATURAL SCENT SIGNALS IT'S WORKING

KILLS AND REPELS: Many common garden pests including Aphids, Mites, Thrips, Whiteflies, Beetles and Caterpillars.

WHERE TO USE: Use on Fruits, Vegetables, Flowers, Ornamentals, Trees & Shrubs. SHAKE WELL BEFORE USING. READ ENTIRE LABEL AND USE ACCORDINGLY.

#### **Active Ingredients:**

Rosemary Oil	
Peppermint Oil	0.259
Thyme Oil	0.259
Clove Oil	0.259
Other Ingredients*	99.009
Other Ingredients*	100.009
ANTAL MILLS I O'L ALONE O DATE ASSESSED.	14 (07)

#### Questions or Comments? Call 1-877-723-3545

©2009 EcoSMART, All Rights Reserved.



MADE IN USA

EcoSMART TECHNOLOGIES, INC 3600 Mansell Road, Suite 150

Alpharetta, GA 30022 US Patent Nos. 6.004.569 6.114.384 6.376.556 6.342.536 and 6.531.163. US and Foreign Patent Pending, Item No. 33117. EcoSMART, EcoSMART ORGANIC, and the EcoSMART TECHNOLOGIES logo are trademarks of EcoSMART TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

### What are the risks?

### Wintergreen oil –

- highly toxic,
- not recommended during pregnancy,
- causes dermatitis,
- inhalation hazard
- Cinnamon oil
  - powerful irritant and
  - even worse sensitizer



#### Introducing EcoSMART FLYING INSECT KILLER

Now there is a new, organic, fast-killing insecticide that is safe to use around children and pets. Unlike other insecticides, it is made from organic plant oils and kills bugs naturally to better protect your family. Plus, there's no pesticide residue. It's safe. It's effective. It's smart. Naturally.

To learn more about the **Ecosmart** story, as well as our products and technology, please visit us at **www.ecosmart.com**.

#### FRESH NATURAL SCENT SIGNALS IT'S WORKING.

#### DIRECTIONS FOR USE:

#### SHAKE WELL BEFORE USING, READ ENTIRE LABEL AND USE ACCORDINGLY,

FLYING INSECT TREATMENT: Kills flies, gnats, mosquitoes, moths, wasps and other flying insect posts on contact. Hold container upright and aim nozzla away from person. Press button firmly to spray. Direct spray at flying insects, contacting as many insects as possible. Spray in short 2-3 second bursts.

NOTE: When used indoors, wipe away excess product.

PRECAUTIONARY STATEMENTS: We recommend good safety practices when using any insecticide, such as avoiding contact with eyes and skin, if product gets in eyes, flush with water for at least 15 minutes. If on skin, wash with soap and water, if irritation persists, contact a physician.

PHYSICAL HAZARDS: Contents under pressure. Keep away from heat, sparks and open flames. Do not puncture or incinerate container. Exposure to temperatures above 130° Fahrenheit may cause container to burst.

STORAGE & DESPOSAL: CAUTION: Keep out of reach of children. Store in a cool, dry area away from heat or open flame. When container is empty, recycle if available. Do not puncture or incinerate.

LIMITATION OF LIABILITY: Ecosmant makes no warranties of merchantability or of fitness for a particular purpose, nor any other express or implied warranty except as stated above. Buyer assumes all responsibility for safety and use not in accordance with label, directions and precautionary statements.

Ecosmart represents that this product is a Minimum-Risk pest control product, and qualifies for exemption from EPA registration under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA).

#### Active Ingredients: Organic Plant Oils

Peppermint Oil	2.009
Cinnamon Oil	
Sesame Oil	
Other Ingredients*	6.009
Total10	
Hillston Winterson on Oil Jaconson of Course Cit La	

"Water, Wintergreen Oil, Isopropanol, Canolia Oil, Lecithin Carbon Dioxide

Questions or Comments? Call 1-877-723-3545 24 hours a day, 7 days a week



Manufactured for EcosMART TECHNOLOGIES, INC. 3600 Mansell Road, Suite 150 Alpharetta, GA 30022



**ECOSMART** 

#### MADE IN USA

US and Foreign Patent Pending, Item No. 01006. EcoSMART and the EcoSMART TECHNOLOGIES logo are trademarks of EcoSMART TECHNOLOGIES, INC. 62007 EcoSMART. All Rights Reserved.

## **Toxicity of Common Organic- Approved Pesticides to Pollinators**



Eric Mader - The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation

## All pesticides have risks!!!

Organic ≠ Safe





Synthetic ≠ Highly toxic

Natural ≠ Safe





# Even organic products are toxic!



## Thousands of tons of organic food produced using toxic chemicals

By DAVID DERBYSHIRE

Last updated at 00:00 01 January 2008

Comments (9) Add to My Stories

Thousands of tons of organic vegetables sold in British shops this year were produced using toxic chemical pesticides, it emerged yesterday.

Many shoppers - who pay premium prices for "naturally" grown veg - are unaware that any chemicals are allowed on any organic produce.

Under Soil Association rules, a small number of sprays are permitted.

But yesterday it emerged that increasing numbers of potato farmers have been asking for special permission to use large amounts of copper fungicide over the summer and autumn.

Scroll down for more...

TABLE 2-12

Original chart from Pests of the Garden and Small Farm by Mary Louise Flint Amended by Gary Fish September 2007

#### Oral LD<sub>50</sub> Values for Some Pesticides Used in Small Farms and Gardens.

CHEMICAL	COMMON TRADE NAMES	ORAL LD <sub>50</sub> ª	EIC	TYPE OF PESTICIDE
Nicotine	Black Leaf 40	55	45 <sup>1</sup>	insecticide
Rotenone*		132	33	insecticide
Bordeaux*		300	68	fungicide
Diazinon		300	43	insecticide
2,4-D		375	17	herbicide
Carbaryl	Sevin	500	21	insecticide
Acephate	Orthene	866	23	insecticide
Copper hydroxide*	Kocide	1000	33	fungicide
Copper oxychloride sulfate*	C-O-C-S	1000	33 <sup>1</sup>	fungicide
Ryania*		1200	55	insecticide
Malathion		1375	24	insecticide
Pyrethrum*		1500	18	insecticide
Propargite	Omite	2200	43	acaricide
Sabadilla*		4000	36	insecticide
Glyphosate	Round-up	4300	15	herbicide
Cryolite*	Kryocide	10,000	21	insecticide
Benomyl	Benlate	>10,000	53	fungicide
Bacillus thuringiensis*	Dipel	15,000	8	insecticide

NOTE: Some materials on this list may not be currently registered as pesticides or their use may be restricted.

asterisk indicates chemical was acceptable for organically grown produce

\*LD<sub>50</sub> indicates the amount of pesticide that will kill half of a group of test animals. These values are for milligrams of pesticide per kilogram of body weight These figures do not provide an indication of the chronic health risk or persistence in the environment.

EIC or Environmental Impact Quotient is a method to calculate the environmental impact of most common fruit and vegetable pesticides (insecticides, acaricides, fungicides and herbicides) used in commercial agriculture. The values obtained from these calculations can be used to compare different pesticides and pest management programs to ultimately determine which program or pesticide is likely to have the lower environmental impact.

<sup>1</sup>Estimated EIQ

"All substances are poisons; there is none which is not a poison. The right DOSE differentiates a poison from a remedy."

-Paracelsus (1493-1541)

Even too much water can kill – over 1.5 liters/hour



#### Woman dies after water-drinking contest

Water intoxication eyed in 'Hold Your Wee for a Wii' contest death

Ap Associated Press

Updated: 10:24 p.m. ET Jan 13: 2007

SACRAMENTO, Calif. - A woman who competed in a radio station's contest to see how much water she could drink without going to the bathroom died of water intoxication, the coroner's office said Saturday.

Jennifer Strange, 28, was found dead Friday in her suburban Rancho Cordova home hours after taking part in the "Hold Your Wee for a Will" contest in which KDND 107.9 promised a Nintendo Wil video game system for the winner.

"She said to one of our supervisors that she was on her way home and her head was hurting her real bad," said Laura Rios, one of Strange's co-workers at Radiological Associates of Sacramento. "She was crying and that was the last that anyone had heard from her."

MRC VIDEO



Launch

Woman in water drinking contest dies Jan. 15: Sacramento Bee reporter Christina Jewett talks to MSNBC-TV's Contessa Brewer about the death of a woman who had competed

in a radio station contest.

MCNE

### Resources

- http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/
- http://www.pesticideinfo.org/
- http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/biopes ticides/regtools/25b\_list.htm
- http://www.omri.org
- http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSv1.0