

Voice for the safety of pesticide use

Kelowna Capital News

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To the editor:

Re: Dig Into the Dirt on Organic Farm Produce, Capital News, July 26.

I agree with a recent column in the Kelowna Capital News that whether the food you eat is grown conventionally or organically, the most important thing is that you get the daily intake that's recommended by Health Canada.

However, the column did contain some misinformation that I would like to correct.

Canada has one of the most modern and stringent pesticide regulatory systems in the world. This means that whether the food you eat is grown conventionally or organically, it is among the safest food available anywhere.

Both organic and conventionally grown foods use an array of pesticides that have all been approved by Health Canada to control threats to their crops.

No matter how your food is grown, what you should be more concerned about is how your food was handled before you bought it—bacterial contamination is an actual and significant health threat.

When it comes to pesticide residues on food, recent data from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency shows that about 88 per cent of all fresh food items and 90 per cent of processed food items contain no traces of pesticides at all. And in instances where trace amounts of pesticides are found on food, they are at such low levels it is impossible to imagine a way to eat enough of it for there to be any harmful impact whatsoever.

Consumers can be assured that pesticides receive a greater breadth of scrutiny than any other regulated product in Canada.

Health Canada, which is one of the most respected regulatory agencies in the world, undertakes a thorough scientific review and risk assessment of every pesticide before registering it for use to ensure it does not pose a health risk to farmers using the products or to families at the dinner table.

Canadians should feel confident about making healthy food choices knowing that our food supply is both safe and affordable.

Lorne Hepworth

president,

CropLife Canada

Editor's note: "CropLife Canada is the trade association representing the manufacturers, developers and distributors of plant science technologies, including pest control products and plant biotechnology." From www.croplife.ca.

COMMENTS

Dr. Hepworth is among several LEADING EXPERTS who have recognized expertise, training and background in matters concerning pest control products.

Dr. Hepworth is also Canada's MOST EFFECTIVE and CONSISTENT SPOKESMAN on the subject of public policy and pest control products.

In Letters To The Editor across Canada, Dr. Hepworth has effectively and consistently spoken out against activists and anti-pesticide prohibitions on a very frequent basis.

Dr. Hepworth speaks the truth — and deserves CONGRATULATION.

Dr. Hepworth and other LEADING EXPERTS have publicly stated, in one form or another, that pest control products are SCIENTIFICALLY-SAFE • AMES, Bruce N., Professor • BRANHAM, Bruce, Professor • DOLL, Richard, The Greatest Epidemiologist Of The 20th Century • DOST, Frank N., Doctor • DRYSDALE, Art C., Horticulturist • EDWARDS, J. Gordon, Doctor • FELSOT, Allan S., Professor • HOLLAND, John J., Communications Director • MILLOY, Steven J., Juris Doctor • RITTER, Leonard, Doctor • ROSS, Gilbert L., Doctor • SCHWARCZ, Joseph A., Doctor • SOLOMON, Keith R., Professor • STEPHENSON, Gerald R., Professor • SWITZER, Clayton M., Doctor • WHELAN, Elizabeth M., Doctor • WOOD, Joel, Doctor.

NORAHG has archived references and reports concerning Dr. Hepworth on The Pesticide Truths Web-Site ...

THE WISDOM OF HEPWORTH, LORNE - THE NATION'S MOST EFFECTIVE AND CONSISTENT SPOKESMAN (Web-Page)

<http://wp.me/P1jq40-2eG>

NORAHG has also archived information pertaining to The Myths About Anti-Pesticide PROHIBITION ...

THE MYTHS ABOUT ANTI-PESTICIDE PROHIBITION (Web-Page)

<http://wp.me/P1jq40-3jm>

WILLIAM H. GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G

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THE PESTICIDE TRUTHS WEB-SITE

<http://pesticidetruths.com/>

PESTICIDE BANS ARE A FARCE (Report)

<http://wp.me/p1jq40-4mS>

THE COMPLETE LIBRARY OF REPORTS & REFERENCES

<http://wp.me/P1jq40-2rr>