

November 2nd, 2010

**Letter of Complaint
to CBC Ombudsman**

**Vince Carlin, CBC Ombudsman
Ombudsman@cbc.ca**

Dear Sir,

This letter is a complaint concerning Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) and its web site recommendations about so-called « *alternative* » or « *organic* » Home-Made-Pest-Control-Concoctions.

These concoctions are recommended to replace conventional pest control products that are approved for use by Health Canada.

These concoctions have been posted on CBC web site since May 23rd, 2003.

Such concoctions are IN VIOLATION OF FEDERAL LAW.

On October 3rd, 2010, we lodged an official complaint with CBC Ombudsman.

The complaint was shared with the CBC itself, who has since designated a spokesman.

It will not surprise you that we are NOT SATISFIED with the response from this spokesman, who sent a letter on November 1st, 2010.

We wish to submit the matter for DIRECT REVIEW by the CBC Ombudsman himself.

We request that CBC-Home-Made-Pest-Control recommendations be REMOVED from the CBC web site.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/background/pesticides/recipes.html>

According to the CBC spokesman, most of the CBC-Home-Made-Pest-Control-Concoctions are « *relatively harmless* ».

The use of the term « *relatively harmless* » is ALARMING.

CBC-Home-Made-Pest-Control-Concoctions are « *relatively harmless* » based upon what expertise or scientific data ?

Who wrote these recommendations ?

Who is the author CBC-Home-Made-Pest-Control recommendations ?

What is the author's competence, expertise, recognized training, or background ?

The CBC concoctions are authored anonymously, which is convenient for those whose recommendations are clearly IN VIOLATION OF FEDERAL LAW.

Moreover, the CBC concoctions are NOT supported by any scientific references.

In fact, there are NO references whatsoever.

There are NO references pertaining to the EFFECTIVENESS of the concoctions, and there are NO references regarding the SAFETY of these concoctions.

More importantly, some of the CBC-Home-Made-Pest-Control-Concoctions are NOT harmless.

Some of the CBC-Home-Made-Pest-Control recommendations are actually DANGEROUS and DEADLY !

For example, the CBC web site recommends RHUBARB, and then adds the disclaimer —

« RHUBARB leaves contain high amounts of oxalic acid. If ingested, YOUR HEART WILL STOP AND YOU WILL DIE. »

By CBC's own admission, its recommendations WILL LEAD TO DEATH.

According to the CBC spokesman, RHUBARB leaves contain enough oxalic acid to cause SYMPTOMS OF POISONING in some people, and potentially DEATH if large quantities are eaten.

This is unacceptable !

According to Health Canada, Home-Made-Pest-Control-Concoctions that require cooking, such as RHUBARB, are POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS.

Why would CBC be even remotely interested in recommending DANGEROUS and DEADLY products ?

Since Health Canada advises that there are HEALTH RISKS associated with the use of CBC-Home-Made-Pest-Control-Concoctions, why is it incumbent upon CBC to recommend DANGEROUS and DEADLY products ?

Why does CBC recommend DANGEROUS and DEADLY products ?

CBC-Home-Made-Pest-Control-Concoctions do NOT undergo any scientific evaluation.

CBC-Home-Made-Pest-Control-Concoctions do NOT have label directions that the user can follow to ensure EFFECTIVENESS and SAFETY.

Since CBC and its employees have decided to become so-called « *experts* » in pest management, consequently, CBC and its employees should be HELD ACCOUNTABLE for all injuries caused by CBC-Home-Made-Pest-Control-Concoctions.

However, CBC and its employees are NOT true experts in pest management.

They are NOT true experts in the HEALTH RISKS associated with the use of CBC-Home-Made-Pest-Control-Concoctions,

CBC and its employees have NO competent expertise, recognized training, or successful background, in matters concerning pest management.

Conversely, Health Canada encourages the use of products registered under the Pest Control Products Act, a policy that CBC is clearly unwilling to follow.

This is unacceptable behaviour by CBC !

Health Canada reviews all of the available scientific information on conventional pest control products to ensure that they meet the latest health and safety standards and are effective.

Health Canada ensures that pest control products are SCIENTIFICALLY SAFE.

CBC-Home-Made-Pest-Control-Concoctions meet NO such health and safety standards.

Consequently, preparing, storing, and using CBC-Home-Made-Pest-Control-Concoctions pose UNNECESSARY RISKS TO HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT.

Preparing, storing, and using CBC-Home-Made-Pest-Control-Concoctions may HARM CHILDREN.

By distracting people from PROVEN and SAFE Health-Canada-Approved products, the promotion of CBC-Home-Made-Pest-Control-Concoctions is ILL ADVISED.

This is unacceptable !

There are now people who will be observing the market-place for any and all reports concerning the safety CBC-Home-Made-Pest-Control-Concoctions.

The use of CBC-Home-Made-Pest-Control-Concoctions may lead some people to seek legal damages.

Why would CBC be even remotely interested in recommending DANGEROUS and DEADLY products ?

It is clear that Canadian Broadcasting Corporation is in VIOLATION OF FEDERAL LAW.

We request that CBC-Home-Made-Pest-Control-Concoctions be REMOVED from the CBC web site.

Thank you again for your time and attention.

Sincerely

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