



#### B.C. RESIDENTS AND COSMETIC PESTICIDES

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Art C. Drysdale Celebrity Horticulturist



British Columbians are being asked for their input on proposed new cosmetic pesticide regulations!

On September 9 last year [2009] on this site, I began my weekly article with this paragraph:

The Province of British Columbia Speech from the Throne was delivered on Tuesday, August 25th. It contained much of what had been predicted, particularly as regards a forecasted deficit. One item which many were not expecting had to do with cosmetic pesticide use. Here is the pertinent sentence: 'British Columbians will be consulted on new statutory protections to further safeguard our environment from cosmetic chemical pesticides.' >>



That consultation is now underway. If you are a gardener in British Columbia, I strongly recommend that you visit the newly-setup website: www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/ipmp/ and then click on the *Cosmetic Use of Pesticides* » button on the right side of the page.

There the government says:

- << This consultation paper and website are intended to stimulate conversation and gather your input on this topic. >>
- << The Ministry of Environment (the ministry) has prepared background information and identified consultation issues for discussion to build understanding about the subject and provide a structure for comments and feedback. Additional comments or suggestions beyond the identified consultation issues are also welcome. >>

I have carefully read and « <code>DIGESTED</code> » the consultation paper, and aside from the definition of the « <code>FLAVOUR OF THE MONTH</code> » slogan — <code>IPM</code> ( for <code>INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT</code> ) which is really a non–sequitur, which groups wishing to ban pesticides totally have grabbed onto as they proceed to try for a total ban; the first item that I noted of real interest was a so–called definition of cosmetic pesticides. It goes:

<< Cosmetic use of pesticides can be considered as the use of pesticides for non-essential or aesthetic pur-



poses. For example, a pesticide may be used in an out-door situation to improve the appearance of lawns, gardens, landscapes or other green spaces and/or to control unwanted or undesirable organisms. >>

<< Some indoor uses, such as use of a pesticide to control spiders, can also be considered as cosmetic or aesthetic. >>

<< Non-cosmetic use of pesticides includes use to prevent economic damage or health impacts such as reducing pest damage to crops or buildings or reducing spread of disease. Exclusions to regulatory provisions addressing the cosmetic use of pesticides have been made to allow the use of pesticides for such activities as public health and safety (including the protection of public works structures), agriculture and preventing impacts to agriculture, forestry, research and scientific purposes, and to protect natural resources. >>

<< Regulations that address the cosmetic use of pesticides include: 1) Defining potentially subjective terms such as 'non-essential' or 'aesthetic'; 2) Addressing use of pesticides in food gardens and/or fruit trees in or near residential areas; and 4) Use of pesticides on business or commercial properties with public access or use — such as commercial gardens, retail businesses or landscaping of businesses in residential areas. >>



Following the foregoing two items, a large percentage of the discussion paper is taken up with a listing of what six other provinces have, or are about to, legislate(d), and the B.C. Government's perceived issues for discussion (respectively, 2 out of the 12 pages and 6 out of 12 pages).

In those final six pages, the consultation paper goes through eight separate aspects and gives the existing legislation, and then asks specific questions for participants to answer. For example, under *CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH PESTICIDES MAY BE SOLD OR PURCHASED* », the paper reads :

<< B.C.'s existing laws governing the sale of pesticides presently require: A certified dispenser to talk to pesticide purchasers and inform the purchaser that the pesticide may only be used according to label directions — the dispenser must also offer to provide advice on pesticide use and pest management. >>

There then follows four questions specific to this section :

<< 1) Do you have any comments or recommendations regarding existing or new requirements governing the sale of pesticides that could be used for cosmetic purposes? 2) Do you feel that public access to all or specified classes of pesticides should be restricted or controlled? If yes, in what ways should access be restrict-ted? 3) Should vendors be required to provide information to perspective purchasers of a pesticide prior to sale? If yes, what information should be provided and how? 4) Do you feel that sales of pesticides</p>



intended to be used for cosmetic purposes should be restricted to buyers who hold special authorization or training? If yes, what authorization (e.g., licensing) and/or training would you recommend? >>

What I have quoted here is just one of the eight sections with separate questions. The number of questions varies by section.

In addition to inviting those who are interested in making comment on the framing of the new legislation, to read the discussion paper and submit comments (deadline, February 15) on a form supplied (at the same website), the B.C. Environment Department is also hosting at least one telephone and web-based information session on Tuesday January 26 at 1:00 PM. The web-based portion of the session will use Microsoft Office Live Meeting service. If you do not have a computer able to view Live Meetings, you can participate by telephone. You will be given opportunities during the presentation to ask questions.

[ A grand total of eighty chatty non-professional women participated on the January 26<sup>th</sup> session. ]

If you are interested in participating in an information session, either web-based, or by telephone, please e-mail cindybertram@shaw.ca and Cindy will contact you with dates and directions for participation.

I guess the one major problem with this consultation process, is that there will likely be input from any number of interested but completely unknowledgeable individuals. I think of the ENVIRO-MANIACS who totally disregard the science behind these products,



such as that used by the federal Health Department when they come up with their ongoing recommendations that all of the products are considered safe for use, provided the label recommendations are followed.

That's is another entire topic — the ENVIRO-MANIACS (both individuals and groups or associations) go to extreme lengths such as commissioning national public polling using questions they purposely design to elicit the answers they themselves want to see. That will be for the next in this series!







Photo 1.
A typical lawn of dandelions, and one individual culprit; these scenes will be increasingly seen across Canada as bans on the use of 2,4–D come into being!



Photo 2. Broadleaf weeds dying after a single application of 2,4-D; and one of millions of ragweed plants that will become a real nuisance as we lose the ability to control its spread when viable chemicals are no longer available.

Author photos.

#### The Green Space Industry ... The Planet's Great Conservationist!

BACKGROUND INFORMATION FROM AN INDEPENDENT PERSPECTIVE — Day after day after day — written in the newspapers, heard on the radio, seen on the television, and displayed throughout cyberspace — the environmental terror movement is urging for measures to terrorize and destroy the Green Space Industry. Their ideas have little basis in fact or science. Nonetheless, the movement has gained some powerful allies, such as provincial legislators and municipal councils that have been described as spineless and naïve.

As an example, take the following phrase — The world would be a better place if lawns and golf courses were maintained more ecologically. If each of us received five cents every time we heard this phrase, we would be literally spitting gold ingots.

Let's think for a minute! How does this phrase really apply to Green Space Industry? It's not complicated. The Green Space Industry can be described as THE PLANET'S

stewardship of the Green Space Industry in maintaining and conserving the world's largest ground cover vegetation has contributed extensively to the beautification of our landscapes, and the preservation of our environment.



#### The Green Space Industry ... The Planet's Great Conservationist!

By contrast, enviro-maniacs and their environmental terror organizations can be more precisely identified as RADICAL PRESERVATIONISTS. They have pretentiously proclaimed that the natural environment needs their stewardship. Much of the movement is obsessed with pre-



serving our world with anti-modernist and anti-technology thinking. It often thrives on junk science. It is a fact that much of the environmental terror movement is inherently opposed to the modern maintenance of turfgrasses. (One notable exception is Audubon International, but not Audubon state organizations.) Allegedly, the use of cosmetic pesticides is not compatible with natural settings. The movement has traditionally preferred junk lawns and junk landscapes that are unaltered by human activity, and are infested with weeds, insects, and disease. These enviroterrorists particularly dislike the cosmetic standards used for the maintenance of golf courses, which are arbitrarily considered too lofty.

We are re-living the DDT saga all over again. The environmental terror movement wishes to terrorize and annihilate the Green Space Industry, just like it did with the makers of DDT!

# Canada's best-known horticulturist for the past four decades, as writer, and radio and television broadcaster

Art Drysdale http://www.artdrysdale.com

Drysdale is one of Canada's best-known horticulturists. For the past four decades he has been writing, and presenting radio and television broadcasts, with practical garden hints on stations such as CFRB, AM740 and CFCA. He also presented all of Canada's Weather Network gardening vignettes, hourly from April to October annually for a decade; as well as being the spokesman for The Garden Claw across the country. A life-long resident of Toronto and a horticulturist well known all across Canada, Drysdale is now



a resident of Parksville, British Columbia on Vancouver Island, just north of Nanaimo. He has renovated an old home and has a new garden there. His radio gardening vignettes are heard in south—western Ontario over two radio stations: Easy 101 FM out of Tillsonburg at 2 PM weekdays and CD98.9 FM out of Norfolk County at 11:40 AM weekdays.

As a speaker, Drysdale has addressed amateur and professional groups all across Canada, as well as in the U.S., England, Holland, Switzerland, Australia, South Africa, and aboard cruise ships. Drysdale graduated from East York Collegiate in 1957, with the Ontario Secondary School Honour Graduation Diploma. He was active and held several executive positions in the East York Garden Club, 1955–69. He attended The Niagara Parks Commission School of Gardening (now NPC Botanical Garden and School of Horticulture), 1958–61, where he won all five awards presented at the graduation. He initiated/edited the school's first yearbook.

From graduation in March 1961 until August 1962, Drysdale worked with the Shur-Gain Division of Canada Packers where he developed new consumer fertilizer products (Feed 'n Weedaway, for example), wrote various consumer literature, and consulted with consumers and the turf industry. He was then employed with Sheridan Nurseries Limited, 1962–69, Drysdale was Chief Horticulturist and Advertising Manager, with full responsibility for their catalogues and botanical nomenclature. In December 1963, Drysdale began writing a feature column for a new magazine, Canadian Nurseryman, and continued to do so until March 1969. He was also a member of the founding committee. In 1964, he was appointed part-time Executive Director and Editor with the Canadian Parks/Recreation Association (CP/RA), with the office in his home. In 1969–70, he was employed full-time as CP/RA Executive Director, and Editor of Recreation Canada. He set up CP/RA's first permanent office in Ottawa in early 1971. From 1971–1978, he free-lanced as a horticultural writer and published/edited Recreation Canada. In 1973, he was appointed Regional Director (Canada) of the Garden Writers Association of America (GWAA). During 1979–81 period he served as President of the Garden Writers Association, the first-ever Canadian to hold the office representing over 1,000 members, mostly in the U.S.A.

In March 1975, Dent Canada published his book Gardening Off The Ground that he wrote on the invitation of the publisher. It was the first Canadian book for balcony gardeners. In July 1996, he self-published a completely revised and enlarged version, including his own colour photos.



FORCE OF NATURE was launched for continuous transmission on the Internet on January 1st, 2009. It is a series of enewsletters destined for the Green Space Industry, the Environmental–Terror–Movement, Government Officials, and the Media, nation–wide across Canada, the United States, and overseas.

Force Of Nature is the brainchild of William H. Gathercole and his entourage. Norah G is actually an acronym for the stable of anonymous producers and writers that contribute to this e-newsletter and have now replaced Mr. Gathercole. They consist of people from the following industries: Distribution, Fertilizer, Golf, Lawn Care, Manufacturing, Municipal, Nursery, and Orchard. Many of these people are leaders in their own industries. The opinions expressed in Force Of Nature, even though from an INDEPENDENT PERSPECTIVE, may not reflect those of everyone in the GREEN SPACE INDUSTRY, or Mr. Gathercole's many associates. Be warned! Force Of Nature may sometimes be very irreverent and fearless with these e-newsletters. Mr. Gathercole is now retired from Force Of Nature, although his name continues to appear as the founder.

William H. Gathercole is a principal FOUNDER of the Modern Professional Lawn Care Industry in BOTH Ontario and Quebec. He holds a degree in Horticulture from the UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH, and another pure and applied science degree from McGILL UNIVERSITY. He has worked in virtually all aspects of the GREEN SPACE INDUSTRY, including GOLF and PROFESSIONAL LAWN CARE, and has served in public affairs, workplace safety, and Environmental compliance. Mr. Gathercole has supervised, consulted, programmed, and/or overseen the execution of HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS of pest control applications in the urban landscape. He has trained, instructed, and consulted with THOUSANDS of turf managers and technicians. Mr. Gathercole has also been an agricultural agronomist. For many years, Mr. Gathercole was a contributing columnist for TURF & Recreation Magazine, Canada's Turf and Grounds Maintenance Authority.

Mr. Gathercole has followed the evolution of ENVIRONMENTAL TERRORISM for over a quarter-century. His involvement in Environmental issues reached a fevered pitch in the 1990s, when he orchestrated, with his colleagues, legal action against the prohibition of pest control products in the Town of Hudson, Quebec. For FIFTEEN YEARS, the strategies designed and implemented by Mr. Gathercole and his colleagues guaranteed the control of Enviro-Terror for the entire Modern Green Space Industry across Canada. Although he can be accused of being Anti-Environment-Movement, he is, in fact, simply a strong advocate FOR the Modern Green Space Industry. However, this position has not precluded him from criticizing the Green Space Industry itself. Nonetheless, his vast knowledge of our long journey with Environmental issues is UNDENIABLE. (Hopefully!)

Force Of Nature is the instrument of National Organization Responding Against Huje that harm the Green Space Industry (NORAHG) by concocting statements and activities seeking to prohibit FEDERALLY LEGAL, SCIENTIFICALLY SAFE, and TOTALLY IRREPLACEABLE conventional pest control products. Enviro-Maniac-Culprits are identified on the basis of their statements, activities, affiliations, and whereabouts. Even though each Enviro-Maniac-Culprit is a misguided adversary, each still deserves our respect. The terms Maniac, Culprit, Terrorist, or Basterd are not accusations of any legal wrong-doing. Force Of Nature is simply holding Culprits accountable for conspiring to change public policies that TERRORIZE and THREATEN the Green Space Industry. Force Of Nature believes that the pretentious prohibitionist policies of the Environmental-Terror-Movement is leading to LOSS OF REVENUES, BUSINESS FAILURES, BANK-RUPTCY, and UNEMPLOYMENT, inflicting DESPAIR and DESTITUTION for THOUSANDS of victims throughout the Green Space Industry. The actions of Maniac-Culprits-Terrorists-Basterds in the movement are viewed as a form of TERROR against the Green Space Industry. The information presented in Force Of Nature has been developed for the education and entertainment of the reader by providing a sequence of historical events with commentary. Additionally, Force Of Nature inspires people to believe that ENVIRONMENTAL TERRORISM can be STOPPED! The events, characters, companies, and organizations, depicted in this document are not always fictitious. Any similarity to actual persons, living or dead, may not be coincidental. All document excerpts and pictures contained in Force Of Nature were found somewhere on the Internet. We believe that they are in the public domain, serving one of the following purposes: archive, education, promotion, publicity, or press release.

The following Force Of Nature documents are currently available — • A Look At • Alberta Prohibition • British Columbia Prohibition • Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment • Millionaire–Cancer–Society • Canadian Environmental Law Association • Consequences • David Suzuki Foundation • DDT and Politicized Science • Death and the Environmental—Terror–Movement • Enviro–Money • Environmental Terrorists Unmasked • Fertilizer–Terror Is Next • June Irwin, The Clown of Junk Science • Kazimiera Jean Cottam • Landscape Trades Capitulate • New Brunswick Prohibition • Nova Scotia Prohibition • Ontario Prohibition • Organic Fertilizers • Pesticide Free BC • Pets and Lawn Care Chemicals • Prince Edward Island Prohibition • Quebec Prohibition • Rachel Carson, The Queen of Junk Science • Salmon Arm BC Prohibition • The 9/11 Eraof the Green Space Industry • The Failure of Integrated Pest Management • The Looming Golf Industry Shipwreck • The Industry Strikes Back • The Misconceptions About Cancer • The National Annihilation of the Modern Green Space Industry • The Wisdom of Bill Bell • The Wisdom of Drysdale • The Wisdom of Health Canada • The Wisdom of Holland • The Wisdom of Lowes • The Wisdom of Mains • The Wisdom of the Solomons • Ask For a Copy of Any Back Issue of Force Of Nature Today. Read All About Enviro–Maniacs and Their Environmental—Terror–Organizations in Force Of Nature! The Whole Truth From An Independent Perspective! Force Of Nature is TOTALLY INDEPENDENT of any trade association or business operating within the Green Space Industry. DON'T THANK US. IT'S A PUBLIC SERVICE. AND WE ARE GLAD TO DO IT.



We must defend the industry, whatever the cost may be?