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## Canadians need not fear pesticide residue

#### Dirty dozen of produce (July 7)

It's unfortunate that a recent article in The Hamilton Spectator perpetuated the myth about pesticide residues on foods that Canadians rely on for good health. It would be extremely unfortunate if consumers avoided certain fruits and vegetables due to unfounded pesticide fears when the health benefits of these foods are so clearly evident.

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 crop protection tools that have been approved through Health Canada — the difference generally is that conventional farmers use modern synthetic products.

Recent data from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency shows about 88 per cent of all fresh food items and 90 per cent of processed food items show no traces of pesticides. 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.

Consumers can be assured that pesticides receive a greater breadth of scrutiny than any other regulated product in Canada. Health Canada 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. The important thing is that people get enough fruits and vegetables to meet the recommendations in Health Canada's food guide.

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

Lorne Hepworth, President, CropLife Canada, representing the plant science industry

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WHGANDNORAHG

Jul 14, 2012 4:05 PM

# HEPWORTH SPEAKS THE TRUTH

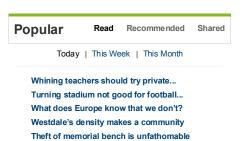
Dr. Hepworth SPEAKS THE TRUTH? and deserves CONGRATULATION. Dr. Hepworth is the nation's MOST EFFECTIVE and CONSISTENT SPOKESMAN on the subject of public policy and pest control products. In Letters To The Editor across Canada, Dr. Hepworth has effectively and consistently spoken out against activists and anti-pesticide prohibitions on a very frequent basis. Dr. Hepworth speaks the



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By: WHGANDNORAHG Jul 14, 2012 4:05 PM

### HEPWORTH SPEAKS THE TRUTH

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Agree

Disagree

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By: HamiltonGreen Jul 14, 2012 10:34 AM

# Representing the Plant Science Industry

Really translates into "The Plant Pesticide Industry". I'm sure Mr. Hepworth has the best of intentions but always beware of people with vested interests supporting their positions. Many doctors strongly protested the proposed ban on thalidomide in the 50's since it was such a great drug for morning sickness. Then the SH\*T hit the fan.

Agree

Disagree

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By: Machinehead Jul 14, 2012 8:58 AM

That should have read "a SHILL for the companies"...... Sorry.

Agree Disagree

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By: Machinehead Jul 14, 2012 8:57 AM

# Can You Trust This Organization?

CropLife Canada is the trade association representing the manufacturers, developers and distributors of pesticides. This is nothing but a ill for the companies that continue to claim that products like 2-4-D and Agent Orange are "safe when used correctly". Trusting this organization to give you the straight goods on pesticides is like chickens trusting Col. Sanders.

Agree1

Disagree

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