

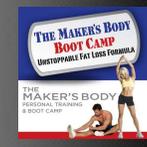

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COMMENTS

Cosmetic pesticides a risk not worth taking

Published: **January 12, 2012 10:00 AM**
 Updated: **January 12, 2012 11:08 AM**

RE: "[Do Homework Before Pesticide Ban](#)" (Progress, Dec. 15)

The key message in this letter is that lawn pesticides have risks. Everyone, including Health Canada, admits this. In the case of 2,4-D -- a common herbicide used to kill weeds in grass -- these risks include cancer, neurological impairment, and reproductive problems.

Our doctors' organization, along with the Canadian Cancer Society, says the risks are not worth taking, especially when the chemicals in question are used just to change a lawn's appearance. We believe homeowners can keep their properties beautiful using non-toxic products -- which are effective and widely available.

The best way to protect our drinking water, beloved family pets and, most important, our children is to ban lawn and garden pesticides right across the province.

Gideon Forman

Executive Director

Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment

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Post to Facebook Posting as Norah G Fon (Change) **Comment**



Norah G Fon · 16 years old

FORMAN IS NO LONGER TAKEN SERIOUSLY.

According to Non-Expert Anti-Pesticide Fund-Raiser Gideon Forman, the use of pest control products used in the Urban Landscape somehow represent...

«... risks include cancer, neurological impairment, and reproductive problems.» [?]

Ostensibly, Forman wants the Government of British Columbia to IMPLEMENT a NEEDLESS, SENSELESS, and MALICIOUS PROHIBITION of pest control products used in the Urban Landscape.

How did Forman arrive at the conclusion that products used in Professional Lawn Care somehow represent this type of « risk »?

Was Forman's ASSESSMENT based upon his vast scientific knowledge of pest control products?

No! Forman has NO background, training, or education on matters concerning pest control products.

Did Forman ASSESS these products after spending time and money carefully studying their effects on health and environment?

No! Forman operates with FUND-RAISING organizations that have NO EXPERTISE in science or research.

What regulatory system does Forman base HIS assessments on?

None! Forman conveniently considers the hundreds of qualified scientists of Health Canada's respected Pest Management Regulatory Agency to be incompetent and/or incapable of arriving at correct scientific findings concerning conventional pest control products.

Does Forman truly represent doctors?

No! Forman's Anti-Pesticide Organization represents LESS THAN 4 PER CENT of all doctors in Canada. Moreover, MOST MEMBERS of his organization are NOT EVEN DOCTORS.

Is Forman COMPETENT to give ANY advice concerning pest control products?

No! In order to allow SOUND SCIENCE to be effectively practiced, it would be preferable that Forman leave the interpretation of scientific research about pest control products to those people who ARE competent to do it — Health Canada.

Can Forman BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY?

No! Conventional pest control products are SCIENTIFICALLY SAFE since they have been scrutinized and approved by the HUNDREDS of expert scientists at Health Canada! Overall, when they are used properly, there are NO harmful irreversible effects to health and the environment!

The ASSESSMENT proving that pest control products are SCIENTIFICALLY-SAFE is a process that can take up to TEN YEARS and COST HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS.

Only those pest control products that pose NO UNACCEPTABLE RISK to human health or the environment become HEALTH-CANADA-APPROVED and FEDERALLY-LEGAL.

Canada has one of the MOST STRINGENT REGULATORY APPROVAL SYSTEMS in the world.

What regulatory system did Forman base HIS assessments on?

Health Canada requires each new pest control product to go through about TWO-HUNDRED SEPARATE TESTS to examine health and environmental impacts as well as value.

How many tests did Forman perform for HIS assessments regarding the safety of pest control products?

None! However, Forman has often been compelled to make public appearances in a WHITE LABORATORY COAT to give the public the impression he is, somehow, a researcher or a medical doctor.

TWO-HUNDRED SEPARATE TESTS represents two-hundred MORE tests than Forman EVER used to back up ANY of his statements AGAINST pest control products.

And the cost to manufacturers to get a pest control product from the lab to store shelves is about 250 MILLION DOLLARS.

How much money did Forman perform for HIS assessments regarding the safety of pest control products?

None! However, Forman uses the abbreviation « Dr » in front of his name to give the public the impression he is some kind of a researcher or a medical doctor, when in fact he has NO doctorate-level degree of ANY kind.

250 MILLION DOLLARS represents 250 million dollars MORE than what Forman EVER paid to back up ANY of his Anti-Pesticide statements.

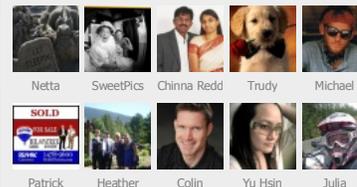
DONATIONS given to Forman's organization are NOT USED for ANY RESEARCH... DONATIONS are used to PAY FOR HIS SALARY.



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