

# The Wisdom of Drysdale !

## Part 1

06/09/2009

### Pest Control Products

Set to begin, a real battle to save, or bring back badly needed lawn and garden care products !

September 6<sup>st</sup>, 2009

Art C. Drysdale  
Celebrity Horticulturist.



<< **S**ome of the so-called ' green alternatives ' [ ... ] have negatives ranging from almost total ineffectiveness except under very specific circumstances, to a question about their toxicity; i.e. that it may well be more toxic than what it is designed to replace. In fact some jurisdictions have already begun to ban some of these ' green alternatives ' and more will likely do the same soon. >>

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The PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA [ B.C. ] Speech from the Throne was delivered on Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup> [ 2009 ]. 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.* ”

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This might have been expected, if you think about the **B.C.** Liberal government's reasoning behind the announcement that it would introduce the Harmonized Sales Tax effective next **July**. That reasoning included the point that now that the province of Ontario had decided to introduce the hated HST, **B.C.** would have to follow suit in order to remain competitive for business. Now, maybe that is true.

I don't personally oppose the HST, I think it is a better way to go than the two-tier PST and GST we had previously. I only wish that it had happened 20 years ago when I was doing considerable business and could only get back slightly less than half of the taxes paid whereas soon it will be possible to get back all of the tax on items being bought for re-sale.

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But, if **B.C.** had to mimic Ontario's example of going with the HST, why does it follow that they would have to do the same with the banning of cosmetic pesticides ? How is one even remotely related to the other ?

**William H. Gathercole**, horticulturist and writer, now writes a daily internet blog (actually identified as a daily news-letter, called "**FORCE OF NATURE**") which is strongly critical not just of the environmental terrorists who, back in the **late 80s and early 90s** conspired to see an end to the lawn, turf, and horticultural maintenance industries, initially through the banning of "*COSMETIC TURF PESTICIDES*", starting in the Town of Hudson Québec.

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William Gathercole 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 public affairs, personal safety, and environmental issues. **Mr. Gathercole** has been a consultant and instructor for decades. He has been following 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 others, legal action against unethical and excessive municipal regulations restricting the use of pest control products. (i.e. the Town of Hudson.) Although he can be accused of being anti-environment-movement, he is, in fact, simply a strong advocate for the green space industry. However, this position has not precluded him from criticizing the industry itself. Nonetheless, his vast knowledge of our long journey with environmental issues is undeniable. For many years, **Mr. Gathercole** has been a contributing columnist for **TURF & RECREATION MAGAZINE**, Canada's turf and grounds maintenance authority.

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In a recent issue of **FORCE OF NATURE**, he outlined the situation in **SALMON ARM, B.C.** as follows:

*“ Legal, safe, and irreplaceable pest control products are prohibited in Salmon Arm, B.C., because weak-kneed councillors are unable to stand up to overly-influential residents that are members of environmental terror groups. Because of the prohibition, insects like aphids have become rampant. There are actually reports from Ontario and Québec where insect pests are on a critical rise since the crazed prohibitions were legislated, just like in Salmon Arm. ”*

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*“ In Salmon Arm, the sugary secretions exuded from the aphids are coating sidewalks and parked vehicles throughout the town. The secretions eventually attract more aggressive insect species such as hornets and wasps. ”*

*“ Repeated and unchecked aphid attacks will tend to make host trees brittle, meaning branches will break when the wind blows hard. People walking on sidewalks drenched in honeydew secretions may slip and fall, and severely hurt themselves. Do we hear the word lawsuit ? Wouldn't it be interesting to see Salmon Arm sued for millions of dollars by some poor citizen struck by a falling branch because of city neglect, and because the city is run by enviro-maniacs ! Salmon Arm appears to be run by councillors stricken with depraved indifference for the safety of its citizens ! ”*

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*“ If the councillors of Salmon Arm had any brains, the malicious prohibition would be rescinded immediately, before some poor citizen becomes seriously hurt, and before Salmon Arm becomes the target of a major lawsuit ! This should serve as a warning to any government officials who conspire to prohibit legal, safe, and irreplaceable pest control products. ”*

William Gathercole also points out, in an even newer edition, some of the many ‘ *outright lies* ’ that are being promoted by enviro-maniacs on this subject :

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- 1) Acre for acre, the American lawn receives four times as much chemical pesticide as any U.S. farmland. [ **WRONG !** ]
- 2) An estimated seven million birds are killed yearly in the U.S. by lawn-care pesticides. [ **WRONG !** ]
- 3) Phosphorus runoff from lawn fertilizer causes algae blooms that suck oxygen out of our waterways, killing all aquatic life. [ **WRONG !** ]
- 4) In the summer, over half of municipal water usage goes to lawns. [ **WRONG !** ]

In addition to these totally incorrect statements by so-called “ *coaches* ” and “ *experts* ”, virtually all of whom have no valid credentials in any aspect of horticulture or lawn care ( truly they are enviro-maniacs ), many of the products being recommended as ‘ *alternative green* ’ substitutes have their own problems ! Some of the so-called ‘ *green alternatives* ’ such as acetic acid, corn gluten meal, *BACILLUS THURINGIENSIS*, herbicidal soap, horticultural oil, insecticidal soap, nematodes and *Sclerotinia minor* have negatives ranging from almost total ineffectiveness except under very specific circumstances, to a question about their toxicity; i.e. that it may well be more toxic than what it is designed to replace. In fact some jurisdictions have already begun to ban some of these ‘ *green alternatives* ’ and more will likely do the same soon.

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This is a battle that has hardly begun, but if we are to continue to have green spaces and gardens, it needs to be fought. I'll have more in coming weeks.



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Art 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.

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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.

Art Drysdale also has his own website at <http://www.artdrysdale.com>

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*The villagers of F.O.N.  
are very happy ...*



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*... more people are understanding  
the malicious problems  
created by the policies of the  
environmental terror movement.*

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FORCE OF NATURE was launched for continuous transmission on the Internet on January 1st, 2009. It is a series of e-newsletters destined for the GREEN SPACE INDUSTRY, the ENVIRONMENTAL TERROR MOVEMENT, politicians, municipalities, and the media, nation-wide across Canada, and parts of the United States and overseas. Force of Nature is produced in two parts. First. The Media Report itself that reports on the current events affecting the future of the GREEN SPACE INDUSTRY. Second. Independent Perspective, which is a running commentary, sometimes technical in nature. Force of Nature is the WHOLE TRUTH from an INDEPENDENT PERSPECTIVE !

Force of Nature is the brainchild of William H. Gathercole and his entourage. Norah G is actually an acronym for the stable of writers that contribute to this e-newsletter. 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 ! Mr. Gathercole and Norah G may sometimes be very irreverent and fearless with these e-newsletters. DONT THANK US. IT'S A PUBLIC SERVICE. AND WE ARE GLAD TO DO IT.



William H. Gathercole 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 public affairs, personal safety, and environmental issues. Mr. Gathercole has been a consultant and instructor for decades. He also been an agricultural agronomist. Mr. Gathercole has been following 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 others, legal action against unethical and excessive municipal regulations restricting the use of pest control products. ( i.e. the Town of Hudson. ) Although he can be accused of being ANTI-ENVIRONMENT-MOVEMENT, he is, in fact, simply a strong advocate FOR the 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 ! ) For many years, Mr. Gathercole has been a contributing columnist for TURF & Recreation Magazine, Canada's Turf and Grounds Maintenance Authority.

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.

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We believe that environmental terrorism can be BEATEN ! Information presented in Force of Nature has been developed for the education and entertainment of the reader. 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. The mission of Force of Nature is to respond to those statements and activities originating from culprits that conspire to prohibit FEDERALLY LEGAL, SCIENTIFICALLY SAFE, and TOTALLY IRREPLACEABLE conventional pest control products. Culprits are identified on the basis of their statements, activities, affiliations, and whereabouts. Even though each culprit is a mis-guided adversary, each still deserves our respect. The term « culprit » is not an accusation of any legal wrong-doing. Force of Nature is simply holding culprits accountable for changes in public policy that have terrorized the Green Space Industry. Force of Nature believes that the prohibition policies of the ENVIRONMENTAL TERROR MOVEMENT will lead to UNEMPLOYMENT, BANKRUPTCY, BUSINESS FAILURE, DESPAIR, and DESTITUTION. The actions of the movement is viewed as a form of TERROR against the Green Space Industry.

The following titles are currently available. (Or, will be available in the near future.) • Alberta Prohibition • British Columbia Prohibition • Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment • Canadian Environmental Law Association • Consequences • David Suzuki Foundation • DDT and Politicized Science • Death and the Environmental Movement • Golf and Landscape Trade Industries • June Irwin, The Clown of Junk Science • Kazimiera Jean Cottam • Kelowna BC Prohibition • New Brunswick Prohibition • Nova Scotia Prohibition • Ontario Prohibition • Organic Fertilizers • Pets and Lawn Care Chemicals • Prince Edward Island Prohibition • Quebec Prohibition • Rachel Carson, The Queen of Junk Science • Randy Hillier, The Next Premier of Ontario • Salmon Arm BC Prohibition • The 9/11 Era of the Green Space Industry • The Failure of Integrated Pest Management • The Industry Strikes Back • The Misconceptions About Cancer • The Wisdom of Drysdale • The Wisdom of the Solomons • Wisconsin Fertilizer Prohibition • 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 !



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