



**Force Of Nature**



# The Wisdom of Art C. Drysdale



## Looking Back 40 Years of Banning DDT

November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010

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Celebrity Horticulturist



Looking back some 40 years to the banning of the infamous DDT — one of the biggest social errors ever !

### SILENT SPRING — A BOOK OF MISINFORMATION

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Just prior to my class's graduation from The Niagara Parks Commission School of Horticulture, in April 1961, there was buzz in the industry about a book written by one Rachel Carson.

The book was apparently to be a severe criticism of the chemical industry.

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It actually first appeared as three excerpts published in the New York Times, June 16–30, 1962, and the full book was published by Houghton–Mifflin in September that year.

I am told that the book still sells at the rate of 30,000 copies per year, and a total of over ten million copies have been sold.

As one wag put it —

| << *Not bad for a book of misinformation !* >>

## RACHEL CARSON — ALMOST ALWAYS WRONG !

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Miss Rachel Louise Carson, 1907–1964, U.S. zoologist, marine biologist, spinster, and cancer victim with no recognized expertise, training or background in matters concerning pest control products.

Rachel Carson was the first Enviro–Terrorist and The Queen of Junk Science — Almost always wrong !

## REMOVAL OF DDT — LITTLE BASIS IN FACT

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The measures that were urged for the removal of DDT had little basis in fact or science.

DDT had to be eliminated in order to save the environment, a move that was self-serving and under-handed by Environmental–Terror–Activists.

The fact that millions of people were hurt and killed with the removal of DDT was ignored, since, sadly, the saving of the environment appeared to be a cause that was greater than any human suffering.

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## DEPRAVED INDIFFERENCE WITH DDT ALTERNATIVES

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Some observers have described this as a form of depraved indifference, and even eco-manslaughter, by Environmental-Terror-Activists.

A classic example of depraved indifference by Enviro-Terror-Activists was displayed in 1971, ( DDT was banned from use in the U.S. in 1972 ) during Congressional testimony before the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture.

The discussion focused on the chemical alternatives to DDT.

The alternatives may have been more acceptable to Enviro-Terror-Activists, but they were truly unsafe for use by applicators, such as farm workers.

The response from Enviro-Terror-Activists was truly shocking !

The following statement was attributed to an executive of the Environmental Defense Fund, a U.S. Environmental-Terror-Organization —

<< *It doesn't make a lot of difference because the organophosphate [ alternative ] acts locally and only kill [ sic ] farm workers, and most of them are Mexicans and Negroes.* >>

Nice, eh !

## MEDIA AND DDT

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In working to have DDT banned, the Environmental Defense Fund, and its compatriot organizations and individuals, a number of specific « *problems* » ostensibly caused by DDT were cited constantly, to the point that the media repeating and repeating these stories caused the general public to be manipulated into thinking the product should be banned.



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## ALLEGED EGG-SHELL THINNING WITH DDT

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Just one example of these « stories » was the one about the thinning of the egg-shells of peregrine falcons and condors off the coast of California.

Writing in The New York Times, John Moir reported that biologists with the Ventana Wildlife Society suspected a handful of breeding pairs in Big Sur had been eating dead sea lions contaminated by the pesticide.

There was no known source of DDT near Big Sur, but the biologists speculated the sea lions could have been contaminated from ocean deposits off the coast of Los Angeles, where Montrose Chemical Corp. released tons of DDT into the sewer system in the 1950s and 60s.

## AMERICAN COUNCIL ON SCIENCE AND HEALTH

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Dr. Gilbert Ross is Executive Director and Medical Director of the American Council on Science and Health, a consumer education-public health organization.

He received his undergraduate degree in Chemistry from Cornell University's School of Arts and Sciences in 1968, and received his M.D. from the N.Y.U. School of Medicine in 1972.

According to Dr. Ross —

*<< The report is thoroughly hysterical and baseless. I don't even know what to call it. It's not even an article — what would you say when someone is musing in the New York Times science section about DDT harming condors without any evidence ? And it's not just idle musing — as the end result will be that more third world children will die of malaria. >>*

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Further, according to Dr. Josh Bloom of the American Council on Science and Health —

*<< It is a nonsensical screed. DDT is essentially non-toxic. In fact, it takes about four times as much DDT as caffeine to cause fatalities in rodents. Hardly the deadly poison that this article portrays it as. >>*

## AIRCRAFT SPRAYING WITH DDT

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On at least two different occasions, I well remember the aircraft on which I was flying either to Australia, or South Africa, once before the banning in 1972, and once some many years after the ban, that as the plane was coming down for a landing, the stewardesses would come through the plane and spray the entire cabin from small aerosol containers.

I once asked just what they were spraying, but they would not reveal the product ( no doubt under orders ! ).

On a second occasion, I noted in which overhead cupboard they stored the aerosol containers and got up to investigate and I slipped one in my pocket.

Later I read the label and it was DDT !

## VITAL ROLE OF DDT

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Industry and agribusiness advocates continue to criticize Silent Spring.

In a 2005 essay, « *The Harm That Pressure Groups Can Do* », British Politician Dick Taverne was damning in his criticism of Carson —

*<< Carson didn't seem to take into account the vital role [ DDT ] played in controlling the transmission of malaria by killing the*

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*mosquitoes that carry the parasite [ ... ] It is the single most effective agent ever developed for saving human life [ ... ] Rachel Carson is a warning to us all of the dangers of neglecting the evidence-based approach and the need to weight potential risk against benefit – it can be argued that the anti-DDT campaign she inspired was responsible for almost as many deaths as some of the worst dictators of the last century. >>*

## MICHAEL CRICHTON AND DDT

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If the Environmental-Terror-Movement was correct about DDT and its effect on birds, where were the thousands of dead bodies ?

A few people have noticed this !

So did Michael Crichton.

He is the famous author who wrote books like State of Fear and Jurassic Park.

Michael Crichton was also a scientist and researcher.

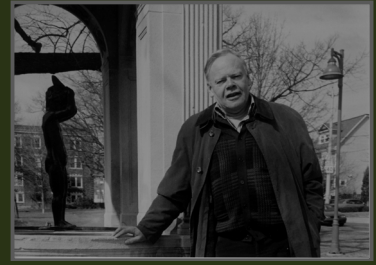
In 2003, Michael Crichton made following remarks —

*<< I can tell you that DDT [ ... ] did not cause birds to die, and should never have been banned. [ ... ] Banning DDT is one of the most disgraceful episodes in the Twentieth Century history of America. >>*

Moreover, the restrictions on the use of DDT resulted in millions of unnecessary deaths !



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In 2004, Michael Crichton summed up the situation with the following excerpt from his book *State of Fear* —

*<< Arguably, the greatest tragedy of the Twentieth Century was the removal of DDT. It was the best insecticide for the control of mosquitoes. Despite views to the contrary, no other products were as efficient, or as safe. Since the removal of DDT, it has been estimated that thirty to fifty million people have died unnecessarily from the effects of malaria. >>*

*<< Sadly, removing DDT has killed more people than Hitler. >>*

*<< Before the removal of DDT, malaria had become almost a minor illness, with only fifty thousand deaths per year throughout the world. >>*

## AFRICA AND DDT

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Many African nations wanted to use DDT to save lives, but they were told their agricultural exports may not be accepted if spraying becomes widespread.

Some people assert that many countries have been under pressure from international health and environmental agencies to give up DDT, or face losing aid grants or trade sanctions.

Both Belize and Bolivia have gone on record to say that they gave in to such pressure from the U.S. Agency for International Development ( USAID ).

Additionally, the European Union ( EU ) has threatened trade sanctions against countries like Uganda that seek to use DDT, even solely for malaria control.

Fortunately, the 2004 Stockholm Convention inadvertently paved the way for the world-wide endorsement of DDT to control and repel the malaria insect vector.

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DDT now plays a crucial part in the U.S. program, announced by President George W. Bush in 2005, to spend an additional 1.2 billion dollars on malaria control over the next five years.

Later in 2005, the U.S. Agency for International Development ( USAID ) reversed its long-time opposition to the purchase of DDT.

Moreover, in 2006, the European Union ( EU ) also indicated that it would no longer impose trade sanctions on those countries that use DDT for controlling a health crisis.

Evidently, the malarial affliction of more than 515 million people per year, and more than one million deaths per year due to malaria, qualified this situation as « *a health crisis* », as defined by the 2004 Stockholm Convention.

On September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2006, the World Health Organization ( WHO ) announced that DDT could be used once again as a principal tool against malaria.

For 30 years, the WHO had phased out DDT from widespread indoor residual spraying.

As of 2006, WHO endorsed DDT for « *indoor residual spraying* » in those areas subject to epidemics, as well as in places with constant and high malaria transmission, including throughout Africa.

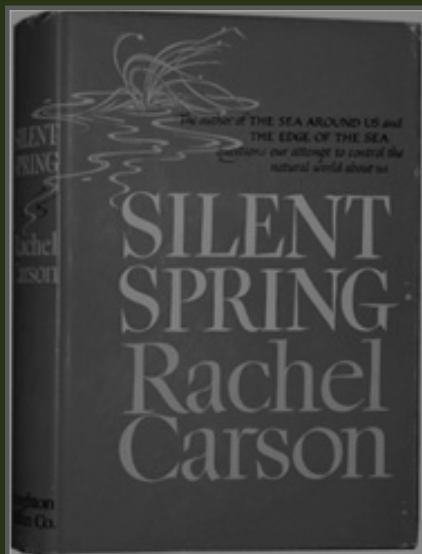
Ironically, several environmental groups now grudgingly endorse the indoor use of DDT for malaria control, including, the Environmental Defense Fund, Sierra Club, and Endangered Wildlife Trust.

After having killed more people than Hitler, maybe the environmental movement finally grew a conscience ?

Not entirely !

The World Wildlife Fund and others still lobby against DDT.

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Above: Rachel Carson, and her Book of the Month Club edition of her book, Silent Spring. Two shots of the use of DDT in airplane cabins such as I remember enduring, and another gross shot of field workers being sprayed with DDT.

Canada's best-known horticulturist  
for the past four decades  
as celebrity writer, as well as 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.

# NORAHG

Force Of Nature presents THE WHOLE TRUTH FROM AN INDEPENDENT PERSPECTIVE from National Organization Responding Against HUJE that seek to harm the Green Space Industry (NORAHG). It is a series of Reports destined for the Green Space Industry, the Environmental Terror Movement, Governments, and the Media, nationwide across Canada, the United States, and overseas. 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. The neutrality of these Reports might be disputed. Don't thank us. It's a public service. And we are glad to do it.

HUJE 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 use of the terms Maniac, Culprit, Terrorist, or Basterd are not accusations of any legal wrong doing. Force Of Nature is simply holding Enviro Maniac Activists accountable for conspiring to change public policies that TERRORIZE, HARM, and THREATEN the Green Space Industry.

HUJE is a term used to describe Enviro Maniac Activists that routinely concoct FEAR MONGERING, FRAUDULENT LIES, MISCONCEPTIONS, COERCION, THREATS, DECEPTIONS, TERROR, and PARANOID CONSPIRACIES that are DESIGNED to SCAM and DECEIVE the public into believing there is some IMAGINARY DANGER with conventional pest control products. HUJE also SCAM and DECEIVE Government Officials into the NEEDLESS, SENSELESS, and MALICIOUS CONSPIRACY to PROHIBIT conventional pest control products that are FEDERALLY LEGAL, SCIENTIFICALLY SAFE, TOTALLY IRREPLACEABLE, and ABSOLUTELY INDISPENSABLE.

HUJE have created LOSS OF REVENUES, BUSINESS FAILURES, BANKRUPTCY, and UNEMPLOYMENT, inflicting DESPAIR and DESTITUTION for THOUSANDS of hapless victims throughout the Green Space Industry. The DEPRAVED INDIFFERENCE of Maniac Culprit Terrorist Basterd HUJE is viewed as a form of TERROR, HARM, and THREAT against the Green Space Industry.

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Force Of Nature, and its various incarnations, is the brainchild of William H. Gathercole and his colleagues. Mr. 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, PROFESSIONAL LAWN CARE, and CHEMICAL INDUSTRY, and has served in environmental compliance, government negotiations, public affairs, and workplace safety. Mr. Gathercole has supervised, consulted, programmed, and/or overseen the successful and safe 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 and his colleagues have followed the evolution of ENVIRONMENTAL TERRORISM for over a quarter century. For FIFTEEN YEARS, the strategies designed and implemented by Mr. Gathercole and his colleagues guaranteed the control of the VERMIN OF ENVIRONMENTAL TERROR for the entire Modern Green Space Industry across Canada. Their involvement in Environmental Issues reached a fevered pitch in the 1990s, when he orchestrated, with his colleagues, legal action against the Forces of Environmental Evil in the Town of Hudson, Quebec.

Today, Mr. Gathercole is the ONLY TRUE RELIABLE WITNESS of the Hudson Affair. Mr. Gathercole is personally credited for crafting the Golf Industry Exception Status that endures to this day. He is also the creator of the signs that are now used for posting after application. His vast knowledge of our long journey with Environmental Issues is UNDENIABLE — hopefully ! Mr. Gathercole is now retired, although his name continues to appear as FOUNDER of Force Of Nature.

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*DDT has a vital role*