



Many jurisdictions have rescinded pesticide bans

BY ART C. DRYSDALE, THE DAILY NEWS JULY 19, 2012

From what I have read in the Nanaimo Daily News, I gather Nanaimo residents, and perhaps visitors/tourists as well, have been complaining about weeds in parks, road cracks and sidewalks, and playgrounds, and so they should.

Like many other cities that thought they were doing the right thing by introducing so-called integrated pest management, Nanaimo did not realize just who and what organizations were urging this upon them.

It is unfortunate that councillors like Jim Kipp can be as naïve as he appears to be when he says: "The growing proliferation of unsightly weeds in cracks in the centre medians of the city's thoroughfares this summer likely has little to do with the city's ban on many toxic pesticides."

I certainly would not be listening to anything the councillor has to say on any subject in as much as he obviously makes comments as the one above on topics about which he knows nothing.

Horticultural advice and information has been my line for 50 years, and I was a personal friend of the late Dr. R. Milton Carleton of Chicago, who considered himself the co-discoverer of the chemical 2,4-D for weed control in lawns. "Milt," as those who knew him well called him, was at that time the director of research for the Vaughan Seed Company in Chicago.

If you wish to read more about just how Carleton "co-invented 2,4-D" just go to my March 14, 2010, article on ICanGarden.com - the largest Canadian gardening website. It boggles my mind to think that people such as Kipp are making decisions that have turned many of our cities into some of the worst hell holes to be seen anywhere. Whatever happened to listening to scientists and those in the know rather than many of these anti-pesticide maniacs?

Are your people at the Nanaimo Daily News aware that there is now a sizable list of jurisdictions that have either rescinded their pesticide ban, or have modified it substantially? You can find that list in my ICanGarden.com article of this week.

Art C. Drysdale Parksville

© Copyright (c) Postmedia News