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# Dow Chemical Drops 2,4-D Lawsuit

Fri, May 27, 2011

General

In a classic case of legal “uncle,” the American chemical giant Dow AgroSciences dropped its \$2 million lawsuit yesterday against the Quebec government concerning the province-wide ban of the weed killer known as 2,4-D.

Both sides, the provincial government and the world’s second largest chemical company, claimed victory in the odd standoff. Dow agreed to stop fighting the 2004 ban on the toxic chemical for lawn and garden use; the government agreed to issue a statement that basically says 2,4-D is safe when used as directed.

Ultimately consumers win, however, because the bans that affect most of Canada — that the Canadian Supreme Court deemed legal in 2001 — will stand. Eighty percent of Canadian citizens now live in municipalities where 2,4-D is illegal to use on lawns and gardens and given this legal wrangling it appears unlikely that any further legal challenges will come forth.

It is likely, however, that Dow Chemical, Scotts Miracle-Gro, TruGreen ChemLawn and others will point to the Quebec government’s safety statement when any new provincial or municipal ban proposals are brought forth in the future.

This fight over 2,4-D, in other words, won’t go away anytime soon. In much of Canada, at least, the product won’t be coming back to lawns and gardens — probably ever.

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This post was written by:

Paul Tukey - who has written 754 posts on [Safelawns Daily Post and Q&A Blog](#).

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Film Screening: A Chemical Reaction, Minneapolis
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Northwest Lawn & Garden Pesticide Summit
- Jun 14

Film Screening & Panel Discussion, Potomac, Md.
- Jun 29

Film Screening: A Chemical Reaction, Frankfort, Ill.

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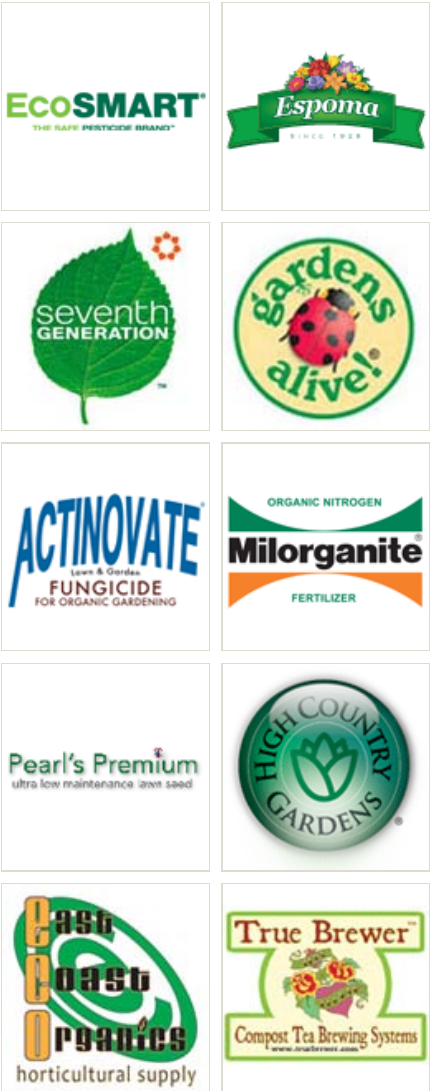
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