

**National Movement of Ecoglasnost
Friends of the Earth**



*Lobby and PR on Obsolete
Pesticides in Bulgaria*

The problem

DDT and other potentially harmful organochlorinated pesticides (OCPs) were found in soil 40 years after their official prohibition.

Where do they come from?

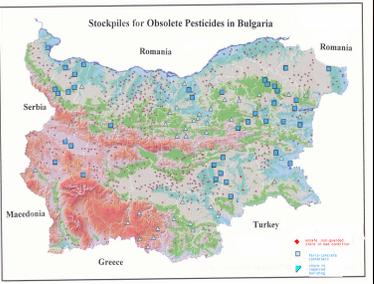
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*Banned pesticides have been placed
and forgotten in many buildings*



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*More than 700 stockpiles for
obsolete pesticides were described*



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Some Data

Number of non-guarded stores in different restricts	Total number in the area	% of non guarded stores in the area	Stored pesticides, kilograms
25	37	67	14935
11	22	50	106375
18	34	53	119130
25	31	81	148300
49	54	90	133440
14	29	48	108724
18	46	39	2740
13	15	86	76134
89	89	100	313171
14	28	50	76372

We found out that:

- **There are 412 non-protected storage places for obsolete pesticides in the country. In particular regions the percent of non-guarded places is from 50% to 100%**

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What do we do?

We lobby MPs to press the government for improving legislation and control

We took photos and showing them, we asked the Government in the Parliament:

Are they safe?

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Are they Safe?



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*(Inside the store)
Are they Safe?*



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*Inside is actually outside
They are not safe!*



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Are there any safe alternatives?



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*They will be here the next 200 we said the journalists
years!*



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What do we do?

We hold inquiries into the different part of population

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Farmers said:

- Can you eat, drink or smoke during work with pesticides?
 - YES - 73 %
 - No, it is dangerous! - 18%
 - I don't know - 9%

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Farmers said:

- Do you know what kind of personal protective equipment must be worn when pesticides are applied?
 - YES – 56%
 - NO – 40 %
 - I am not sure – 4%

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In Burgas region

- How often can you buy a pesticide for your farm ?
 - Once - 43%
 - Twice - 34%
 - 3 times - 12%
 - 4 times - 0.1%
 - 5 times - 0.05%
 - I can't afford it – 7%

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In Stara Zagora region

- Do you graze your flocks and herds near the store?
 - YES – 86%

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In Stara Zagora region

- Have you ever used the chemicals stored in the old building in/near your village?
 - YES – 67 %

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What do we do?

We create booklets, leaflets, stickers and posters and disseminate them among the ordinary people



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...in the very remote poor villages



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We will never forget her surprise!



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Sometimes we had to walk there



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Some of the stockpiles were flooded



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What do we do?

- We inform the public through the media – national and local TV broadcasts are performed



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What do we do?

- The articles are published in the specialized agricultural newspapers or in daily national newspapers

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What do we do?

- In 62 towns and small villages the intercession (meetings) with the local authorities were organized:
- the mayor or the chairmen of the village council,
- the local representatives (the Chairmen) of the agricultural cooperative

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Regional meetings

- A meeting entitled “The problem with the Obsolete Pesticides in Pleven district– a State of Affairs and Perspectives“ was organized.

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Pleven district was chosen



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Thank you for your attention !

NM of Ecoglasnost gratefully
acknowledge the support for this
campaign of
PAN - Germany