


National Movement Ecoglasnost
Friends of the Earth



*Biocides Use in Home and Garden
in Bulgaria:
Problems and Needs*

The problem

- Cockroaches, fleas, ants, ticks, mosquitoes, food moths, rodents such as rat and mice are willing to share our daily life and food
- Some of these pests are able to carry or cause diseases
- Pesticides seem to be an effective and fast control tool.
The public believe that these products are "harmless"

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The potential health effects of household pesticides are hidden

- affect the nervous system
- may be carcinogens
- affect the hormone or endocrine system

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*Parents don't know about :
Brain tumors*

- Children whose mothers treated their dogs for fleas or ticks during pregnancy are twice as many than the control group



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*Parents don't know about :
Children with Leukemia*

They had parents who were nearly four times more likely to use pesticides in the home than the parents of children without the disease



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Even Doctors ?!

- It is very surprised that lindan-containing products are still in use
- .In 1992 the school nurse Judy Magee conducted a survey of 27 families with 119 children. She found that 23% of the children had been "treated" with doctor-prescribed lindane!

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The environmental risks of indoor pesticides

- Pesticide runoff from rain and watering of lawns and gardens enters underground water or goes directly into rivers. The runoff from one home to the next creates harmful combinations that can kill fish and aquatic life or could contaminate the drinking water.

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The real amount of home and garden pesticide use???

- For the USA it is reported that home and garden pesticide use has climbed to 82 million pounds a year.
- **82% of Bulgarian households use pesticides, with an average of three to four different pesticide products per year**

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Bulgaria -Legislation – responsibility?

- **Ministry of Agriculture and Forest**
- **Ministry of Health**
- **Ministry of Environment and Water.**
- Legislation is new and good
- **The results are poor**

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What is wrong?

- Regulators at all levels are not co-ordinated
- Register of the companies is not easy to be found
- The list of authorized for use in Bulgaria products for desinsection and deratization (published by Ministry of Health) is not accessible either

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What is wrong?

- Illegal, imported, cheap household pesticides from all over the world are on the market
- The legal ones are often not accompanied by instructions for use
- A lot of pesticides are applied in public areas and no notification for it is given to the public

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Producers are aggressive!



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Banned household products are everywhere



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National Campaign for Reduction of Household Pesticides Use in Bulgaria

We believe that we will be able to change public attitude towards pesticides – How?

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To Give the Consumers the Right to Know!



I prefer my son's health!
So are all the mothers – let's help them to understand!

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Thank you for your attention !

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