

Dear reader,

We open this month's newsletter with the Pestgate scandal. Where chemical companies withheld studies on the neurotoxicity of the pesticide and authorities do not properly adopt the EU pesticide law. This keeps dangerous pesticides on the market and puts us all at risk. However, luckily, this month, also some good news. A judge in the Netherlands had banned spraying of pesticides on lily fields to protect the health of neighbours. Let's hope others will follow this good example. Do not hesitate to share this newsletter with friends or spread the news on social media!

The PAN Europe Team

News from the team

Help to Save Bees and Farmers now!

We need your help right now. The EU Commission presented two legal proposals to reduce pesticides and restore nature. They are under heavy attack by politicians who put the interests of the chemical industry above citizens, farmers, health and biodiversity. Please use our tool to write to members of the EU Parliament. Ask them in a polite way for more ambition and to take action now. Adding your own words makes the message much stronger. The tool selects the country of your IP address, but of course, you can also select another country. [Write to your MEPs now!](#)

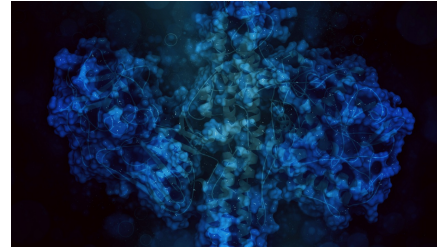


#Pestgate: why the EU pesticide control does not work the way it should

Pestgate is a toxic interaction of the chemical industry with reluctant national and European authorities and a failing system of assessment of very toxic pesticides. It is much more than withholding relevant information. It is about the fox guarding the henhouse. It's about creating a standard that tosses aside independent studies by default. It is about EU institutions and Member States not -or only extremely slowly- complying with their own laws. [Read more.](#)

EU citizens are not protected against neurotoxic effects of pesticides

There is a dangerous gap in the safety assessment of pesticides. Neurotoxicity is not adequately investigated and this could contribute to damage to the brain development of children and the rapid development of diseases like Parkinson's. In a letter to health commissioner Kyriakides, we have expressed our concerns and asked for urgent action. We also ask for solid action against the pesticide producers that withheld studies on neurotoxicity. This should lead to a hefty fine and withdrawal of the pesticide substances involved. [Read more about the how and why.](#)



Thursday July 6: Free webinar on the Impact of Pesticides on Farmworkers and Rural Communities

This webinar aims to shed light on the effects of pesticide use on the health and well-being of farmworkers and residents in rural areas. This should be an important factor in the ongoing discussions on the Sustainable Use of Plant Protection Products

Regulation (SUR) proposal. [Register here.](#)

Under the Surface: A Deep Dive Into EU Water Pollution

Despite some improvements, water pollution remains a key environmental and sanitary challenge across the EU. More than twenty years after the adoption of the Water Framework Directive, less than 40% of Europe's rivers, lakes, and coastal and transitional waters and around 70% of groundwater bodies hold good chemical status. Yet, that does not give the full picture of the state of our waters as chemical status is only assessed against a small subset of substances and largely does not take into account the effects of chemical mixtures. [Read more.](#)



European Parliament calls for action to curb water pollution

The European Parliament has sent a clear signal on the need to curb water pollution by voting in support of measures that will improve monitoring and help guide action. [Read more.](#)

Highlights from Members

Dutch judge bans spraying of pesticides on lily fields

For the very first time, a judge in an EU country has banned the spraying of pesticides on a specific crop because it poses high risks to health. A lily grower in the north of the Netherlands is no longer allowed to spray pesticides on his lily field. The ruling is remarkable because the pesticides are authorised. [Read more.](#)



Call to von der Leyen: No more derogations from the environmental obligations of the CAP

In a [joint open letter](#) to European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, more than 100 civil society organisations today called for the continuation of the Green Deal. They describe it as "arguably the most important European milestone project of this century". Demands for a further suspension of environmental requirements in the Common Agricultural Policy, (CAP) should be rejected, said the signatories, which include organisations from the fields of nature conservation, science, medicine, development cooperation, workers' and consumer protection, as well as farmers' associations and church organisations. [Read more.](#)

Hormone-disrupting pesticides – An insidious danger

Hormone-disrupting pesticides – An insidious danger is a new brochure by our member PAN Germany. Hormone toxins, so-called endocrine disruptors, pose a global threat to health and the environment. They disrupt hormone balance, a major risk, especially during human and animal development. The updated flyer is available in German [here](#).



Please support our work!

Our work to eliminate the use of toxic pesticides is more important than ever before! With your support, we can change policies and practices for the better protection of our health and environment.

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Interesting further reads

- Letter: [Reaction to the IPM compromise chapter of the Swedish Council presidency on the Sustainable Use of Pesticides Regulation \(SUR\)](#)
- Letter: [No backward step in pesticide regulation](#)

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