

# Impacts of Pesticides in Human Life

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## COMMENTARY

Pesticides dangers are well-documented, but their advantages are frequently overlooked in the literature and the media. The authors performed a recent quick survey of pesticide-related papers in the published literature and discovered a ratio of almost 40 unfavourable articles for every one that took a more positive stance. Many people blame pesticide exposure for health or environmental concerns, especially pesticides with high mammalian toxicity or those that remain in the environment.

These dangers should not be overlooked, and efforts should be taken to reduce them by strict regulation and user training, but we must also consider the benefits of pesticide usage. Pesticides are more likely to be justified when applied logically and carefully in conjunction with other technologies in integrated pest control systems.

It's possible that the lack of stories showcasing the advantages of pesticides is due to the fact that when a product performs precisely what the producer claims, it's not considered 'newsworthy.' We don't hear much about gloss paint's benefits, but it's still a wonderful method to preserve exterior woodwork. It sometimes takes an accident or proof of injury to get the public's attention, and the same may be said for scientific writing.

"If pesticides were removed, the lives saved would be outweighed by a ratio of roughly 1000 by the lives lost owing to inferior diets," says one exception to the generally unfavourable view of pesticides. Secondary consequences would include substantial environmental harm owing to less productive farming's land requirements, as well as a financial cost of roughly \$20 billion". This research does not attempt to quantify or rank the advantages of pesticide usage, nor does it attempt to balance the benefits of pesticide use against any negative repercussions.

Instead, it focuses on the good results provided by properly applied

pesticides, in order to provide a more objective cost-benefit analysis. It stems from CropLife International's exhaustive literature search, development of a complete review report, and construction of an electronic database of pesticide benefits. Chemical pesticide exposure in honey bees has long been a source of worry for beekeepers and farmers alike.

Crop pollination employs a major amount of our 2.4 million colonies, which are often used on many crops every season. Pesticides employed by producers to manage pest insects, illnesses, and weeds pose a threat to these colonies. Furthermore, our own usage of miticides within the hive to control varroa mites has long been a source of worry due to the potential for harm to developing bees (particularly queens) and hive product contamination.

In the past, pesticide poisoning of honey bees was connected with deadly exposure and a mound of dead bees in front of the hive as a sign. Pesticides are increasingly causing worry that they may have a sublethal effect on bees, altering their behaviour or capacity to fight diseases rather than killing them outright. Pesticides, for example, have been proven to damage honey bees' cognitive capacities and depress their immune systems at sublethal concentrations.

We believe that pesticide exposure is one of the factors leading to pollinator loss and CCD for these reasons. We looked for pesticide residues in pollen (bee bread and captured pollen) and wax in 2007. A large number of samples were gathered by members of the CCD working group as part of a wider CCD study from activities influenced by CCD and control operations.

Additional samples were from honey bee colonies in Pennsylvania apple orchards where pesticide treatments had been thoroughly documented over the previous seven years. Beekeepers captured pollen while their bees were in special cropping scenarios or were concerned about the health of their colonies was the third source.

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