Pesticide Action Network Encyclopedia Article

Pesticide Action Network

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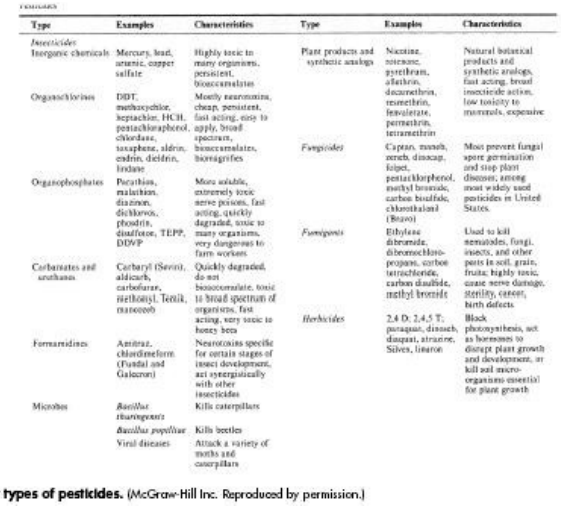
Pesticide Action Network

The **Pesticide** Action Network is an international coalition of more than 300 nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) that works to stop both pesticide misuse and the proliferation of pesticide use worldwide. The Pesticide Action Network North America Regional Center (PANNA) is the North American member.

The Pesticide Action Network serves as a clearing-house to disseminate information to pesticide action groups and individuals in this country and abroad. It promotes research on and implementation of alternatives to pesticide use in agriculture, such as **integrated pest management** programs. With a library of 6,000 books, reports, articles, slides, and other materials, it sponsors a pesticide issues referral and information service.

Formerly called the Pesticide Education Action Project, which was founded in 1982, PANNA conducts the Dirty Dozen Campaign to "replace the most notorious pesticides with sustainable, ecologically sound alternatives." Various materials published by PANNA include brochures, pamphlets and books on United States pesticide problems and on global pesticide use. It publishes a quarterly newsletter, *Global Pesticide Campaigner*, and a bimonthly publication, *PANNA Outlook*.

The organization also publishes a number of books dealing with pesticides and **pest** control including *Problem Pesticides, Pesticide Problems: A Citizen's Action Guide to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides*; *FAO Code: Missing Ingredients*; and *Breaking the Pesticide Habit: Alternatives to 12 Hazardous Pesticides*. While PANNA is not a membership organization for individuals outside of the member NGOs, it does offer subscriptions to its quarterly newsletter.



Type	Examples	Characteristics	Type	Examples	Characteristics
Insecticides					
Inorganic chemicals	Mercury, lead, arsenic, copper sulfate	Highly toxic to many organisms, persistent, bioaccumulates	Plant products and synthetic analogs	Nicotine, rotenone, pyrethrum, allethrin, decamethrin, resmethrin, fenvalerate, permethrin, tetramethrin	Natural botanical products and synthetic analogs, fast acting, broad insecticide action, low toxicity to mammals, expensive
Organochlorines	DDT, methoxychlor, heptachlor, HCH, pentachlorophenol, chlordane, toxaphene, aldrin, endrin, dieldrin, lindane	Mostly neurotoxins, cheap, persistent, fast acting, easy to apply, broad spectrum, bioaccumulates, biomagnifies	*Fungicides*	Captan, maneb, zineb, dinocap, folpet, pentachlorphenol, methyl bromide, carbon disulfide, chlorothalonil (Bravo)	Most prevent fungal spore germination and stop plant diseases, among most widely used pesticides in United States.
Organophosphates	Parathion, malathion, diazinon, dichlorvos, phosdrin, disulfoton, TEPP, DDVP	More soluble, extremely toxic nerve poisons, fast acting, quickly degraded, toxic to many organisms, very dangerous to farm workers.	*Fumigants*	Ethylene dibromide, dibromochloropropane, carbon tetrachloride, carbon disulfide, methyl bromide	Used to kill nematodes, fungi, insects, and other pests in soil, grain, fruits; highly toxic, cause nerve damage, sterility, cancer, birth defects
Carbamates and urethanes	Carbaryl (Sevin), aldicarb, carbofuran, methomyl, Tenik, maneozeb	Quickly degraded, do not bioaccumulate, toxic to broad spectrum of organisms, fast acting, very toxic to honey bees	*Herbicides*	2,4 D; 2,4,5 T; paraquat, dinoseb, diquat, atrazine, Silvex, linuron	Block photosynthesis, act as hormones to disrupt plant growth and development, or kill soil microorganisms essential for plant growth
Formamidines	Amitraz, chlordimeform (Fundal and Galecron)	Neurotoxins specific for certain stages of insect development, act synergistically with other insecticides			
Microbes	*Bacillus thuringiensis*	Kills caterpillars			
	Bacillus popilliae	Kills beetles			
	Viral diseases	Attack a variety of moths and caterpillars			

Different types of pesticides. (McGraw-Hill Inc. Reproduced by permission.)

Different types of pesticides. (McGraw-Hill Inc. Reproduced by permission.)

Resources

Organizations

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