



OFFICE INTERNATIONAL

du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux

association sans but lucratif

1926-2016
90 ans

Regroupement des fédérations européennes des jardins familiaux
Membre d'Europa Nostra
Statut participatif auprès du Conseil de l'Europe

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The Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux and the affiliated federations call upon all allotment gardeners to take part in the Week without pesticides organized from 20th till 30th March 2018.



Pesticides are chemical compounds that are used to kill pests, including insects, rodents, fungi and unwanted plants (weeds). Pesticides are used in public health to kill vectors of disease, such as mosquitoes, and in agriculture, to kill pests that damage crops. *By their nature, pesticides are potentially toxic to other organisms, including humans, and need to be used safely and disposed of properly.*

Need it be more emphasized than this?

A vast number of alarming reports on the harmful use of pesticides can be read on vast numbers of internet pages. In fact, so many that every allotment - or home gardener ought to react strongly before using any them. Just search for "Pesticides" and your evenings for a long time to come will be filled with interesting articles on the subject. But do not let it scare you. Every gardener should read as much about it as they can as it can save lives for the future.

A **week** without pesticides is merely a drop in the ocean. A "Week" is not to be taken literally.

It can start when you like and go on for as long as you like. Pesticides are more dangerous than you realize. They're sprayed in abundance, but research on these chemicals remains surprisingly scarce.

As of today, the scandals of pesticides deal with issues like this:

"The European food safety authority (Efsa) based a recommendation that a chemical linked to cancer was safe for public use on an EU report that copied and pasted analyses from a "Monsanto study", the British newspaper The Guardian reveals.

Glyphosate is the core ingredient in Monsanto's Round Up weed killer brand and a battle over its relicensing has split EU countries. A final decision for a prolonged authorization for 5 years was taken on 27th November 2017.

And how about these headlines:

"Honey tests reveal global contamination by bee-harming pesticides"

"Free school fruit contains multiple pesticides". In Raisins; Soft citrus; Pears; Strawberries; Apples; Bananas; Carrots; Tomatoes.....

The list can be much extended.

The assumption by regulators around the world that it is safe to use pesticides at industrial scales across landscapes is false, says a chief scientific adviser to the UK government.

What do you think? Is the use of pesticides worth it?