



PESTed News

Winter 2002

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES CENTER / PESTicide Education Project

115 W. Main Street, Carrboro NC 27510 <http://www.ibiblio.org/arc>

Get the Drift? Pesticide Advisory Committee Recommends Gutting Aerial Spray Regulations

How close do you want a crop duster to your home? One mile? Half a mile? How does 100 feet sound? Aerial pesticide applicators who spray crops in NC may spray up to 100 feet from an occupied home (from the house, NOT from the property line). A 300-foot buffer zone must be maintained around occupied schools and businesses. Now the NC Pesticide Board is considering a new rule that would significantly weaken the regulation of aerial pesticide application and undermine these scanty buffer zones.

Most disturbing about the proposed rule is that it was written by the chemical industry itself. Last year the NC Pesticide Board asked the Pesticide Advisory Committee (PAC) to review the 100 foot buffer zone for residences because of one case where a farmer could not spray pecan trees close to his own home. The PAC took it upon itself to review all the regulations governing the aerial application of pesticides, and got an employee of Aventis CropScience (a pesticide manufacturer) to help. Pesticides produced by Aventis have been named time and again in aerial spray violations; highly-toxic organophosphate pesticides like Prep (ethephon) and Folex (tribufos). The NC Pesticide Board has accepted the proposal, and plans to conduct public hearings on the rule in fall 2002.

100 Feet is Not Enough

ARC/PESTed has argued for years that 100 feet is not enough to protect public health and property from pesticide drift. If approved, the new regulations could permit crop dusters to spray right alongside yards and buildings, parks, farms, and homes. Drift to adjacent properties would increase significantly, endangering the public health, as well as organic farms and gardens. Other possible changes are

continued on page 2



Cotton spraying in Scotland County, photo by Erick Umstead

Sample Letter to the Pesticide Board

M. Scott Whitford, Chair
c/o James Burnette, Jr.
NC Pesticide Board
PO Box 27647
Raleigh, NC 27611

To the Pesticide Board:

As a citizen of North Carolina, I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed changes to the regulation of aerial pesticide application. The PAC was asked by one applicator to carve out a specific exemption. Instead the PAC has recommended wholesale changes that weaken the now-limited preventive buffers and will reduce protection of public health.

The Pesticide Section has received hundreds of complaints from North Carolina citizens made sick by pesticides. Decreasing the buffer zone will only make more people sick. The 100-foot buffer zone maintains at least a minimum of protection between us and the crop dusters. Drift is a major problem; even applicators acknowledge it to be inevitable. Pesticides often drift away from the fields they were intended for and onto vulnerable homes, schools, and businesses. Rather than decreasing the buffer zone, the NC Pesticide Board should increase it to as much as 1000 feet in the interest of public health.

Please consider the Pesticide Advisory Committee's recommendations from the perspective of human health and prevention rather than the narrow and self-interested position of the aerial applicators. North Carolina's citizens deserve better protection from dangerous chemicals.

Sincerely,

Your Name and address

continued from page 1

to reduce the buffer around businesses; to reduce the buffer along roads, and to allow "minimal" pesticide residues inside the buffer zones, where formerly no residues were permitted.

The US Congress Office of Technology Assessment estimates that while less than 1% of aerially-applied pesticides ever reach the target pest, more than 40% will migrate off-site as drift, even under optimal conditions. Under these optimal conditions, aerially-applied pesticides can drift from 300 to over 5000 feet -- and far further in breezy conditions. The Pesticide

Advisory Committee's proposal does nothing to ease the threat to public health, or to neighboring farms. Instead it seeks to blur the question by asking illogical questions. "If drift is inevitable, why regulate aerial applications at all?" they ask.

The answer is simple: aerial applications must be regulated because drift is inevitable, because workers, neighbors, tenants and passersby are already subject to toxic exposure without their knowledge or consent when ever pesticides are applied aerially. Rather than eliminating the 100-foot buffer zone, the Pesticide Board should increase the buffer zone around homes to as much as 1000 feet in the interest of public health. Aerial applicators first argued that they didn't need buffers because pesticides could be applied so precisely with modern equipment. Now they argue that they don't need buffers because drift is inevitable. What is the real story here?

Legalizing Pesticide Drift

When residents file a complaint with the NC Department of Agriculture because they have been sprayed, the area is tested for residues as evidence. By allowing "minimal residues" instead of banning drift altogether, the Department of Agriculture limits its own ability to enforce drift control. Aerial applicators have long objected to the current "no deposit" standard precisely because it is enforceable: if there is residue in the buffer zone, there was drift and hence a violation. That is what buffers are for. Repealing this standard only to replace it with one that is not protective is a giant step backwards for public health.

Proposed rule changes would allow residues of 6ppm (parts per million) in some situations, 16 ppm (parts per million) for most insecticides, and 1600 ppm for most herbicides. These levels are determined by calculating the amount of residue on a plant leaf that is not expected to injure a 154-pound adult through brief dermal contact (it is worth noting that these levels were determined by an employee of the chemical industry, not a public employee or other independent scientist). In some situations this sort of measure-

ment could be relevant, for instance in determining worker safety standards. Even if these standards provided an adequate margin of safety for the average adult male, they are not appropriate for all who may be subject to drift from aerial application. In particular, such standards are not appropriate for children. The National Academy of Sciences report, "Pesticides in the Diets of Infants and Children," documented many ways in which pesticides standards set for the average adult are inappropriate for children. Children's rapidly-developing nervous and endocrine systems are extremely vulnerable to the effects of toxins. Several studies in excellent peer-reviewed scientific journals indicate the startling increase of childhood cancers among families whose children are exposed to pesticides, even in small amounts.

Making Contact with Sprays

Consider also the cultural practices involved: a child, neighbor, or passerby who is sprayed is not trained to wash and change clothing immediately after contact with pesticides. Children and neighbors do not know which chemicals have been used or what to tell a physician if they experience symptoms of pesticide poisoning. They are not informed of the presence of pesticides or how to take the necessary precautions -- and the Department of

continued on p 5

What is ARC/PESTed?

The Agricultural Resources Center (ARC) is a private, non-profit, tax exempt public interest organization chartered in 1976 promoting environmental protection, public health, and a sustainable society. ARC's principal activity since 1986 is the PESTicide Education project.

PESTed provides advocacy, information, and technical support on alternatives to pesticides for rural and urban individuals and communities. PESTed promotes safe food, clean ground water, prevention of toxic exposure in homes, schools, and workplaces and sound, holistic, and sustainable alternatives.

ARC/PESTed represents the public interest with an independent perspective on the effects of chemical pest control on public health and the environment, promotes citizen involvement in policy making and problem solving, and networks with other state, regional and national groups.

THANKS to our Board of Directors!

*Savi Horne Lewis Pitts
Carolyn Prince Billie Rogers
Jane Sharp Allen Spalt
Susan Spring Meggs Erick Umstead
Mary Jo Windley*

ARC Staff

*Director Allen Spalt
Research Director Erick Umstead
Program Coordinator Fawn Pattison*

Have You Missed Us?

It has been too long since ARC published our last issue of PESTed News! We are glad to report that ARC is back on track with a recent grant from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, and with a great debt of gratitude to all the individual donors who have kept us going through a rough time.

We are working as hard as ever to represent the public interest in pesticide issues in North Carolina, and to inform YOU about the toxic pollutants that affect your lives. If you would like to get more information, make a donation, or help someone connect to ARC, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Duke Power Expands Herbicide Spraying Program in Western NC

Duke uses helicopters to increase aerial spraying along rights-of-way



Helicopter spraying, photo: USDA Archives

though “a few” customers requested that their property not be sprayed. Their requests were honored and entered into Duke’s no-spray database, according to Austin. Austin called the spraying campaign “very successful,” but was unsure whether the program would be continued next season. Duke Power is still in the process of evaluating the terrain and planning for next year.

Increasing Drift

Criticisms of aerial spraying abound. Although Duke announced that they would be using nozzle sprayers designed to reduce drift, off-target pesticide drift is always a problem, especially when applications are made aurally. It is difficult to say exactly how far pesticides will drift, because in almost every case, residues have been found as far away as researchers have been willing to look (Source: Journal of Pesticide Reform 15:1 p 3). Even under optimal conditions, it is estimated that applicators should expect at least 40% of the application to be lost as drift (Source: US Congress Office of Technology Assessment). Considering these

continued on p 4

Duke Power announced in June 2001 that it would begin using helicopters to spray herbicides along rights of way in Western North Carolina where growth along transmission lines was previously managed by mowing. Although Duke has been using helicopters in South Carolina for three years, last season marks the first time such a scheme has been used in North Carolina. Counties affected by the plan include Iredell, Alexander, Wilkes,

Allegheny, Transylvania, Henderson and Polk. Customers were notified of the plan in their June power bills.

Over the summer more than 1100 acres in these areas were treated with a cocktail of herbicides that included Arsenal (imazapyr), Accord (glyphosate), and an Arsenal/Krenite (dinitroresol) mixture. According to Duke Power spokesperson Mike Austin, no complaints were received about damage or health problems,

Polluter Profile: Duke Energy

CEO: Richard B. Priory

Headquarters: Charlotte, NC

Profits in 2000: \$49.3 Billion

As mentioned above, Duke Power is expanding its herbicide spraying program in Western NC to include aerial spraying by helicopter. Aerial spraying means more drift onto neighboring properties, more runoff into ground water, and less impact on the target plants. Non-target organisms like the embattled dogwood tree are thus further endangered by the scheme. Contact Duke Power and let them know you don't want them spraying near your property.

Duke Energy was recently sued by the EPA for violations of the Clean Air Act at all eight of its coal-fired power plants. Duke made modifications to the plants without installing the required pollution controls. Smokestack pollution from coal-fired power plants is one of the largest factors contributing to global warming, as well as the acid rain that threatens the health of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Duke is now under investigation for overcharging NC and SC power customers to boost executives' salaries. Duke Power admits to overcharging ratepayers \$12.75 million since 1998, but officials from North and South Carolina estimate the overcharge at more than \$100 million.

Duke Energy is still under indictment for price-gouging during the California Energy Crisis. Duke holds the world's record for highest price ever charged for electricity at \$3900/megawatt during the crisis -- the average price per megawatt during the crisis had already been a whopping \$30.* Three employees who spoke out against their employers' practices were fired last spring. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has ordered Duke to refund California consumers \$10 million for overcharges.

****(Orange County [CA] register 6/22/01)***

DUKE EXPANDS AERIAL SPRAY PROGRAM *continued from page 3*

facts, as well as the toxicity of the herbicides used in the program, the fate of native plants and wildlife, water quality and human health are all endangered by Duke Power's aerial spraying program.

The pesticides used in the aerial spraying program include Arsenal (imazapyr), a broad-spectrum imidazolinone which moves readily in soil and is identified by the EPA as a hazard to many endangered species in the southeastern United States; Accord (glyphosate), a moderately-persistent phosphonate which is also a suspect carcinogen and suspect mutagen; and Krenite (dinitrocresol), a phenol classified as highly toxic to mammals, birds, fish and many other aquatic species. As for the Arsenal/Krenite blend, no data is available on the toxicity or persistence of these chemicals in combination, although the blend is widely used as a defoliant. Nor is there any available data about the persistence or toxicity of the "inert" ingredients which make up more than half of the products.

Current NC regulations restrict aerial applicators from spraying within 300 feet of occupied schools, churches, or businesses, or within 100 feet of homes, but the NC pesticide board is currently considering a proposal to undermine this limited buffer zone (see p 1). Next summer could conceivably see Duke's helicopters dumping these herbicides in Western North Carolina directly over homes, farms and gardens crossed by power lines. As it stands, 100 feet doesn't feel like much of a buffer.

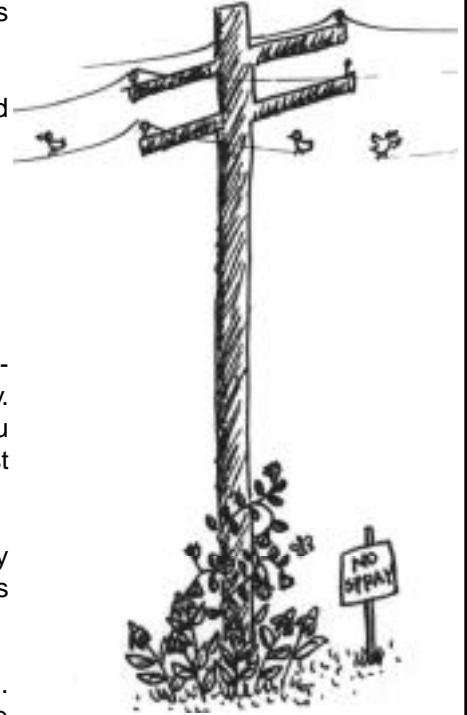
Power to the People

Customers annoyed or even sickened by Duke's plan can pursue several courses of action. First, be sure to call Duke Power or your local provider and request that your property not be sprayed (see instructions above). Write a letter to Duke Power sharing your concerns about aerial spraying. Then consider ways to reach Duke where they'll really feel it: in the pocketbook. Take meaningful steps to reduce your power consumption,

You have the RIGHT to REFUSE Right-of-Way Spraying

Right-of-way spraying can damage ornamentals, gardens, and farmland, not to mention your health. Want to stop the power company from spraying herbicides on or near your property? Here's how:

1. Call your power provider (listed below).
NC Power 1-888-667-3000
CP&L 1-888-201-2229
Duke Power (Chapel Hill area) 967-8231
(or check your local phone book)
2. Tell them that you don't want any herbicides sprayed on or near your property. Make sure they send you signs that you can post in your yard. Don't wait! Post your own signs right away!
3. Post your property near the utility poles. Tell your friends and neighbors too!
4. Document any problems or damage. Take pictures. Report the problem to the power company and to the NC Department of Agriculture.



Have you been sprayed by your power company? Please tell us about it. ARC collects information to assist consumers and prevent unwanted exposures.

Email: PESTed@envirolink.org 115 W. Main St, Carrboro, NC 27510

including unplugging appliances, installing high-efficiency light bulbs, better insulation, and of course turning off the lights. Dry your laundry out on the clothesline (but not on days when there may be aerial spraying nearby!). If you are building a home or making renovations, consider adding solar panels or a geothermal system to your plans. Including these changes in the mortgage can save homeowners thousands of dollars on utilities in the long run. All these steps to reduce power consumption will save you money and promote clean air. Duke Power won't like it, but isn't that the idea?

If you do witness damage to the environment, private property, or especially human health due to right-of-way spraying, be sure to document it. Take photos, file reports, and if you or your family come into contact with pesticides be sure to seek medical attention immediately, even if you don't feel sick.

Support PESTed at Work!

ARC/PESTed is a member of Earth Share of NC. When you enroll in Workplace Giving programs at work, you can ensure that your donation goes to public health and environmental protection from harmful pesticides.

Look for ESNC in your workplace giving campaign, or contact them at:

1-800-200-6311
www.earthsharenc.org



If you have concerns or would like more information about what to do if you or your property are sprayed, contact PESTed at (919) 967-1886, or via email, PESTed@envirolink.org.

-Fawn Pattison

Federal School Pesticide Legislation Defeated by One Vote

Landmark legislation that would have required schools across the US to adopt safer pest management plans was just barely derailed as the Education Conference Committee voted down the School Environment Protection Act (SEPA) November 30 after a heated debate. The legislation requires the adoption of integrated pest management (IPM) practices that minimize risk to children, utilize safer practices and provide safety information to parents and school staff when pesticides are used in the schools. Data show that IPM methods save schools money, according to supporters. It provides for the adoption of school pest management plans and notification and posting when certain pesticide applications are used.

The action by the Education Conference Committee represented the unraveling of an historic agreement between environmentalists and the chemical industry which began back in May. IPM advocates and Senator Torricelli (NJ) charge that the pesticide industry reneged on the agreement it had signed off on and supported before a unanimous consent Senate vote in June. Throughout Conference deliberations a coalition of environmental, public health, parent and teacher organizations, spearheaded by Beyond Pesticides and the National Pest Management Association, have actively supported the legislation.

SEPA grew out of a landmark agreement among groups representing parents, teachers, health professionals, environmentalists, pest management professionals and the chemical industry. After Senate passage, SEPA ran into opposition from House Agriculture Committee members in a July hearing, though the committee had previously

refused to hold hearings on the legislation or participate in negotiations this spring [NC Rep. Eva Clayton was among House Ag Committee members opposing the bill – ed.].

It's Not Over Yet

Senators Torricelli and Kennedy (MA) have vowed to re-introduce the bill at every opportunity until it is passed. Write to your senators and representatives and let them know that you think our schools deserve better protection from toxic pesticides (especially if you live in Eva Clayton's district). You can also write Senator Edwards and thank him for voting for SEPA.

With regard to the three major programmatic components of SEPA -- posting, notification and integrated pest management (IPM) -- three states, including Maryland, Massachusetts and Michigan, have statutory requirements in all three areas. Ten states (Arizona, California, Connecticut, Illinois, Louisiana, New Jersey, New York, Texas, Washington and West Virginia) require two of the three major components in SEPA. Overall, 29 states have adopted pesticide laws that have one or more of the provisions in SEPA. Of those, fifteen states require written notification, either by universal notice or a registry, and thirteen states recommend or require schools use IPM. In North Carolina the only pesticide regulation pertaining to schools is the 300-foot buffer zone for aerial spraying (now in jeopardy).

Would you like more information on organizing efforts to get pesticides out of schools? In NC, contact us at the Agricultural Resources Center (contact information on page one). Nationally, visit www.beyondpesticides.org for links to projects in your area.

—adapted from an article submitted by Beyond Pesticides/NCAMP

Beyond Pesticides/NCAMP, 701 E Street SE, Washington DC 20003
Email: info@beyondpesticides.org
Web: www.beyondpesticides.org

AERIAL REGS IN JEOPARDY

continued from page 2

Agriculture aims to keep it that way. Children also play in the yard for long periods of time and stick objects that may be coated with residue into their mouths. Although a larger buffer zone cannot change these cultural practices, it will provide some measure of prevention.

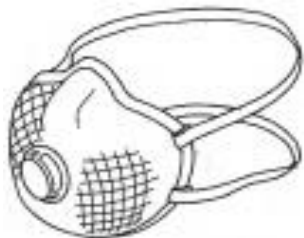
A Hollow Consent

Rural residents currently rely on a mere 100 feet of ground between the crop dusters and their homes; soon they may lose even this small safety measure. The PAC's proposal would allow rural residents to sign a consent form to permit aerial spraying within 100 feet of their homes; how will they insure that this is an informed consent when the dangers of pesticides are only beginning to be understood? How will they prevent growers from requiring this consent form of vulnerable tenants and workers? Will the consent form include information on the health and environmental effects of the pesticides proposed for spraying? Will it include information on the additive and synergistic effects of mixtures of pesticides and other chemicals to be applied? And how will the Pesticide Board take responsibility, if this rule is implemented, for the injuries to adults, children, pets, and damage to property that will occur as a direct result? If history is any indication, they may send a letter of explanation to the victims.

Make Your Voice Heard

ARC/PESTed will work hard to defend and expand current aerial spraying regulations. What can you do to make sure the Department of Agriculture acts on YOUR behalf rather than on the self-interest of pesticide applicators? Write to the Chair of the Pesticide Board, M. Scott Whitford. Please see the sample letter on page one. Feel free to use as much of it as you like when you write your letter, or call or email our office for more information. And please consider attending the public hearings this fall. Please call our office or check our website (www.ibiblio.org/arc) for updates.

-Fawn Pattison



News in Brief

News & Views from Around the Nation

EPA TO ACCEPT INDUSTRY DATA USING HUMAN TEST SUBJECTS

The Bush administration has succumbed to pressure from the pesticide industry on whether to use humans as test subjects for pesticide safety data. A panel of doctors, bioethicists, and clinical scientists assembled by the EPA in 1998 called for strict limitations on the use of human test subjects for pesticides, and urged the EPA to adopt a strong policy on the issue, which it did not do at the time because of industry pressure.

Pesticide manufacturers argue that human tests are necessary because data from animal testing results in regulations that are "more conservative and more restrictive than they need to be" according to a spokesperson from the American Crop Protection Association (source: Los Angeles Times).

Critics cite several problems with the new policy, including poor ethical standards which make for bad scientific practice, no possible benefit to test subjects (as there may be in human testing of pharmaceuticals), and the conflict of interest posed by the huge amounts of money in the balance for pesticide manufacturers. Paying volunteers to swallow pesticides also encourages low-income populations to subject themselves to the tests, further endangering the populations most vulnerable to toxic pollution.

WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

Recent studies from the Action Group on Erosion, Technology and Concentration (ETC Group) and the Associated Press show just how much agricultural profit goes to the megarich.

According to the Associated Press review of the Department of Agriculture's records, most federal farm aid (touted as relief for needy farmers) actually goes to mega-corporations and huge contract farming operations, rather than family farmers.

Because subsidy payments are based on farm acreage, rather than financial need, subsidies are funneled to Fortune 500 companies, state prisons, and real estate developers. The AP analysis of the USDA's payments in fiscal year 2000 shows that 63 percent of the money went to the top 10 percent of recipients, including some of the wealthiest members of Congress, who received aid from the same farm programs they voted for (source: John Kelly, Associated Press).

ETC Group's study reveals just who gets the biggest piece of the pie: of the worldwide agricultural market, it's huge chemical companies reaping the lion's share of rewards. Terminator genes, anyone? For the complete report, visit RAFI's website, at

<http://www.etcgroup.org>.

Top Agrochemical Companies

The following list shows company and agrochemical sales for 2000.

1. Syngenta (Novartis, AstraZeneca), \$6.1 billion.
2. Pharmacia (Monsanto), \$4.1 billion.
3. Aventis (AgroEvo, Rhone Poulenc) \$3.4 billion.
4. BASF (Cyanamid), \$3.4 billion.
5. DuPont, \$2.5 billion.
6. Bayer, \$2.1 billion.

Source: ETC Group

CROP DUSTERS AS TERRORIST TOOLS

Crop-dusting planes were grounded in the United States from September 16 to 18 following the devastating terrorist attacks on New York and Washington. Concerns arose that the crop-dusters could be used by terrorists for chemical or biological attacks after the FBI found a crop-dusting manual in searches of the terrorist suspects' homes. Canadian officials are investigating following reports from a Saskatchewan aerial spraying company that was visited by "suspicious" individuals over the summer (source:

Reuters).

The recent theft and crash of a small plane in Tampa, FL illustrates the need for greater security for small planes, including crop dusters.

In response to this news as well as requests from the FBI for pesticide information, the NC Pesticide Board recently approved an emergency rule that mandated record-keeping of pesticide sales for "Restricted-Use" Pesticides (RUP's). The reporting of sales data, however, is not required. Pesticide dealers are only required to keep records of sales of RUP's, although "General-Use" Pesticides (GUP's) can pose just as much of a safety threat and are very widely used in North Carolina.

DESPITE PLEDGES TO REDUCE PESTICIDE USE, EPA AND USDA LAG ON IPM IMPLEMENTATION

A recent study by the Congressional General Accounting Office (GAO) finds that the Environmental Protection Agency and US Department of Agriculture are not doing enough to promote integrated pest management (IPM) practices. Despite growing evidence of better pest control, environmental and health benefits, higher yields and healthier soil through IPM practices, use of conventional toxic pesticides has risen by almost 40 million pounds since 1992, despite the IPM policy launched in 1993 (source: US Newswire). Although both the EPA and USDA have pledged to reduce pesticide use nationwide, the most dangerous class of pesticides still account for 40% of all pesticides used today, risks to human health notwithstanding. The USDA has promised to take the GAO's findings into account to better implement IPM programs. The GAO report was commissioned by Senator Patrick Leahy of Vermont and is available online at <http://www.gao.gov> or through Sen. Leahy's office.

Pesticide-free Resources

From ARC

ARC has a library brimming with resources on everything from chemical-free weed-killing and non-toxic flea control to how to hire a pest control professional and booking a non-toxic vacation. Need help? Just call our Carrboro office at 919/967-1886 or email us at PESTed@envirolink.org.

On Schools

Looking for assistance de-toxing your school? Here are some excellent publications that may be just what you're looking for:

- *School Pesticide Monitor*, a Bi-Monthly Bulletin on Pesticides and Alternatives. Available free from Beyond Pesticides/NCAMP. 701 E Street SE, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20003. info@beyondpesticides.org.
- Healthy Schools-Healthy Kids Information Clearinghouse. Find resource guides, reports, info packets, factsheets, news articles, newsletters and posters pertaining to schools and toxics. Healthy Schools Network, 773 Madison Ave, Albany, NY 12210. www.healthyschools.org

For Gardeners

- *Organic Gardening Magazine* -- now

called OG. Look for it on the newsstand or at <http://www.organicgardening.com>

- *Mother Earth News* (yes it's still around!). Full of country lore for simple living. Check your health food store's magazine rack or at <http://www.motherearthnews.com/>.

On Environmental Illnesses

- *Canary News*. Membership in MCS Health & Environment (including a subscription to the excellent bi-monthly newsletter and access to the lending library) is only \$20/year. MCS Health & Environment, 2549 Waukegan Rd, PMB 162, Bannockburn, IL 60015. Discounts available for financial hardship.
- *Our Toxic Times*. A monthly publication from the Chemical Injury Information Network, available for a yearly donation in any amount. PO Box 301, White Sulphur Springs, MT 59645. <http://www.ciin.org>
- MCS Referral & Resources, a non-profit organization in Maryland that assists sufferers of environmental illnesses in finding physicians, support groups, diagnosis, treatment, resources, expert testimony, and more. 508 Westgate Road, Baltimore MD 21229, 410-362-6400, fax 410-362-

6401. <http://www.mcsrr.org>.

Don't Miss the 2002 National Pesticide Forum in Seattle, WA, April 26-28. For more info contact Beyond Pesticides at (202) 543-5450 or on the web: <http://www.beyondpesticides.org>.

For links to lots of excellent internet resources, be sure to visit our website at <http://www.ibiblio.org/arc>. If you have links or resources to submit to us, email them to PESTed@envirolink.org.

WANTED: Fantastic Board Members like You!

Board Members are the backbone of ARC. If you or someone you know would like to get more involved in pesticide issues and grassroots activism in NC, contact Fawn Pattison at (919) 967-1886 or email PESTed@envirolink.org. Board members are expected to attend approximately three meetings per year in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro area, and to be available for occasional emails, phone calls and other support. Former and present ARC Board members have included teachers, scientists, activists, professors, lawyers, students and others. Consider giving some of your time to ARC in this very important way!

Be a Part of Pesticide Reform in North Carolina!

Give to ARC

ARC/PESTed is working hard to raise funds to meet our budget for 2001-2002. We have never been able to do our work without the support of those we serve. You will find an envelope enclosed for your convenience. Your stamp saves us money!

In-Kind Donations

We are also happy to accept in-kind donations of goods and/or services. Here are some items from our wish list:

- office supplies like recycled paper
- a not-too-old Macintosh computer
- a photocopier
- lunch for our next board meeting

Call or email us to discuss in-kind donations!
(919) 967-1886, or email PESTed@envirolink.org.

Volunteer with ARC

We need volunteers! Our Carrboro office needs help with all sorts of things, like assembling information packets, distributing information at events, and keeping track of donors. Would you like to help us with any of these things? Do you have other ideas for ways to help ARC/PESTed? We would love to hear from you. Please contact Fawn Pattison at (919) 967-1886 or email PESTed@envirolink.org. Thank you!

Give the gift of Pesticide Safety!

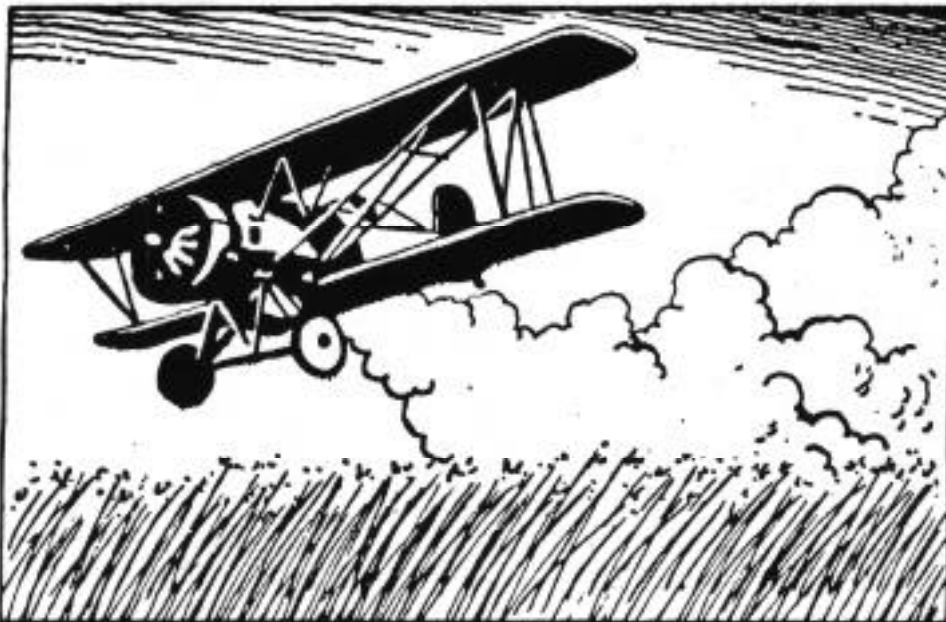
Give a thoughtful gift to that caring person on your list who already has everything. Make a donation to ARC in their name! We will send her/him an acknowledgement card thanking them for inspiring such a kind gift. If you wish to give in someone's name, simply enclose a note with their name, address, and telephone number in the donation envelope enclosed, and be sure to write the word "GIFT" on the envelope as well.

Back Page: Book Notes

Sandra Steingraber, *Having Faith: an ecologist's journey to motherhood*, Cambridge, MA: Perseus Publishing, hardcover, 342pp, ISBN: 0-7382-0467-6; \$26.00.

Sandra Steingraber's new book is compelling, insightful, informative and beautifully written. Motherhood is supposed to be fun, tender and loving. Pregnancy can also make you puke. Steingraber successfully meets the challenge of bringing both alive while detailing what is and is not known about the processes and threats to reproduction and survival in our modern chemically-saturated world.

As in her acclaimed previous book, *Living Downstream, a scientist's personal investigation of cancer and the environment* (1997), in which she explores cancer from the perspective of a poet, ecologist and cancer survivor, she again questions what others take for granted. She can discuss her most private feelings without apparent embarrassment in the interests of informing herself and others. She describes breast milk as "the most chemically-contaminated human food on the planet" while unhesitatingly making the case for breastfeeding



100 FEET IS NOT ENOUGH

because of its irreplaceable benefits. She also makes the case for abolishing the chemicals that cause cancer and fetal disruption. Steingraber was recently recognized with a "Rachel Carson Leadership award" and once again proves she is the environmental pioneer's authentic successor.

-Allen Spalt

Would you rather receive
PESTed News *electronically*?
Just send your name and email
address to:
PESTed@envirolink.org
Become a tree-saving
electronic subscriber!

PESTed News is a publication of the PESTicide Education Project <PESTed@envirolink.org>
Visit us on the web at <http://www.ibiblio.org/arc>

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES CENTER
PESTicide Education Project
115 W. Main Street
Carrboro, NC 27510

Non-profit org
US Postage
PAID
Carrboro, NC
Permit # 149

Return service requested

mailing label

Factoid: Pesticide and Chemical injuries in NC are 7.5 times greater than the national average (source: Swinker, et al. NC Med J 60: 77-82).