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Pesticides
Fact Sheet

# TOXICITY OF REPRESENTATIVE PESTICIDES

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The $LD_{50}$ (Lethal Dose 50%) is the amount of a substance that is sufficient to kill 50% of a population of test animals and is measured in milligrams of the substance per kilogram of the test animals body weight.

| | **$LD_{50}$ Oral (Rat)** | **$LD_{50}$ Dermal (Rabbit)** |
|---|---|---|
| sodium fluoroacetate (1080) | 0.1 | — |
| aldicarb (Temik) | 0.7 | 1400 **[2.5*]** |
| parathion | 2 | 15 |
| warfarin (D-Con) | 3 **[800**]** | 1400 |
| carbofuran (Furadan) | 5.3 | 885 **[120*]** |
| azinphos-methyl (Guthion) | 7 | 220* |
| strychnine | 16 | — |
| cholecalciferol (Vitamin $D_3$) | 42 | — |
| nicotine | 50 | 50 |
| paraquat (Gramoxone) | 57 | 325 **[80*]** |
| rotenone | 60 | — |
| diazinon (D·Z·N) | 66 | 180 |
| DDT | 87 | 1931 |
| chlorpyifos (Dursban, Lorsban) | 145 | 2000 |
| caffeine | 192 | — |
| pyrethrum | 200 | — |
| aspirin | 200 **[1010**]** | — |
| carbaryl (Sevin) | 250 | 2000 **[4000*]** |
| 2,4-D acid | 370 | 1400 |
| malathion | 370 | 4100 |
| piperine (black pepper) | 514 | — |

| | $LD_{50}$ Oral (Rat) | $LD_{50}$ Dermal (Rabbit) |
|---|---|---|
| atrazine (Aatrex) | 672 | 7500 |
| dicamba (Banvel) | 1039 **[2000**]** | — |
| garlic oil | 1360 | — |
| picloram (Tordon) | 2898 | — |
| sodium chloride (table salt) | 3000 | — |
| glyphosate (Roundup) | 5480 | — |
| captan | 9000 **[740**]** | — |
| water | 25000 [intravenous] | — |

The $LD_{50}$ number in mg/kg multiplied by .003 equals the $LD_{50}$ in ounces for a 187 lb. warm blooded animal (wba). For example, the NIOSH 2,4-D acid $LD_{50}$ number is 370 mg/kg, times .003 equals 1.11 ounces for the $LD_{50}$ of a 187 lb. wba. The NIOSH aldicarb $LD_{50}$ number is 0.7 mg/kg, times .003 equals .0021 ounces for the $LD_{50}$ of a 187 lb. wba. Water would be 75 ounces intravenous.

***rat; **rabbit**

## PRECAUTIONARY STATEMENT

All pesticides have both benefits and risks. Benefits can be maximized and risks minimized by reading and following the labeling. Pay close attention to the directions for use and the precautionary statements. The information on pesticide labels contains both instructions and limitations. Pesticide labels are legal documents and it is a violation of both federal and state laws to use a pesticide inconsistent with its labeling. The pesticide applicator is legally responsible for proper use. Always read and follow the label.

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