Chemical Factsheet

Diuron

General Information

- Product Names:
  Topsite (BASF) formulated with Imazapyr
  Sahara (BASF) formulated with Imazapyr
  Krovar (Dupont) formulated with Bromacil
  Velpar (Dupont)Formulated with Hexazinone
  Troysan (Troy)
  Preventol (Lanxess)
- Chemical Class: Dimethylurea herbicide (also mildewcide and algaecide)
- Uses: Agriculture, ornamentals, ponds, aquariums, paints
- Alternatives: Organic agriculture
- Beyond Pesticides rating: Toxic

Health and Environmental Effects

See citations at end of document.

- Cancer: Known/likely (**1**, **2**)
- Endocrine Disruption: Yes (**3**)
- Reproductive Effects: Not documented
- Neurotoxicity: Not documented
- Kidney/Liver Damage: Yes (**1**) [carcinomas]
- Sensitizer/ Irritant: Yes (**4**)
- Birth/Developmental: Not documented
- Detected in Groundwater: Not documented
- Potential Leacher: Not documented
- Toxic to Birds: Not documented
- Toxic to Fish/Aquatic Organisms: Yes (**1**)
- Toxic to Bees: Yes (**5**)

Additional Information

- Regulatory Status:
  - EPA Reregistration Eligibility Decision (RED) signed(9/2003)
- Supporting information:
  - Extoxnet Pesticide Factsheet (Extension Toxicology Network)
  - PAN Pesticides Database: (Pesticide Action Network)
- Studies [compiled from the Pesticide-Induced Diseases Database]
  - Prenatal pesticide exposure and childhood leukemia - A California statewide case-control study. Park, A.S., Ritz, B., Yu, F., Cockburn, M. and Heck, J.E., 2020. International journal of hygiene and environmental health, 226, p.113486.
  - Diuron-induced rat urinary bladder carcinogenesis: mode of action and human relevance evaluations using the International Programme on Chemical Safety framework.. Da Rocha MS, Arnold LL, De Oliveira ML, Catalano SM, et al. 2014. Crit Rev Toxicol. 44(5):393-406.

- Estimating the aquatic risk from exposure to up to twenty-two pesticide active ingredients in waterways discharging to the Great Barrier Reef. Warne, M. et al. (2023) Estimating the aquatic risk from exposure to up to twenty-two pesticide active ingredients in waterways discharging to the Great Barrier Reef, Science of The Total Environment. Available at: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0048969723032552.
- Pesticides and prostate cancer incidence and mortality: An environment-wide association study. Soerensen, S. et al. (2024) Pesticides and prostate cancer incidence and mortality: An environment-wide association study, Cancer. Available at: https://acsjournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/cncr.35572.
- Impact of Endocrine Disrupting Pesticide Use on Obesity: A Systematic Review. Pérez-Bermejo, M. et al. (2024) Impact of Endocrine Disrupting Pesticide Use on Obesity: A Systematic Review, Biomedicines. Available at: https://www.mdpi.com/2227-9059/12/12/2677.
- Pesticide exposure and sleep disorder: A cross-sectional study among Thai farmers. Juntarawijit, C. et al. (2025) Pesticide exposure and sleep disorder: A cross-sectional study among Thai farmers, Heliyon. Available at: https://www.cell.com/heliyon/fulltext/S2405-8440(24)17154-X.
- Assessment of genetic damage levels in agricultural workers exposed to pesticides in Paraíba, Brazil. Carvalho-Gonçalves, L. et al. (2025) Assessment of genetic damage levels in agricultural workers exposed to pesticides in Paraíba, Brazil, Environmental Toxicology and Pharmacology. Available at: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1382668925000900.
- Occurrence of Current-Use Pesticides in Paired Indoor Dust, Drinking Water, and Urine Samples from the United States: Risk Prioritization and Health Implications. Xie, Y., Li, J., Salamova, A., & Zheng, G. (2025). Occurrence of Current-Use Pesticides in Paired Indoor Dust, Drinking Water, and Urine Samples from the United States: Risk Prioritization and Health Implications. Environmental science & technology, 59(25), 12507–12519. https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.est.5c00961
- Pesticide Prioritization by Potential Biological Effects in Tributaries of the Laurentian Great Lakes. Oliver, S.K., Corsi, S.R., Baldwin, A.K., Nott, M.A., Ankley, G.T., Blackwell, B.R., Villeneuve, D.L., Hladik, M.L., Kolpin, D.W., Loken, L., DeCicco, L.A., Meyer, M.T. and Loftin, K.A. (2023), Pesticide Prioritization by Potential Biological Effects in Tributaries of the Laurentian Great Lakes. Environ Toxicol Chem, 42: 367-384. https://doi.org/10.1002/etc.5522

Gateway Health and Environmental Effects Citations

1. US EPA, Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances, Reregistration Eligibility Decisions (REDs), Interim REDS (iREDs) and RED Factsheets. https://archive.epa.gov/pesticides/reregistration/web/html/status.html.

2. California Environmental Protection Agency. Proposition 65: Chemicals Known to the State to Cause Cancer or Reproductive Toxicity. Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment. February 25, 2022.https://oehha.ca.gov/media/downloads/proposition-65//p65chemicalslistsinglelisttable2021p.pdf

3. European Commission. Endocrine Disruptors: Study on Gathering Information on 435 Substances with Insufficient Data. Final Report. EU DG Environment: B4-3040/2001/325850/MAR/C2. BKH Consulting Engineers: M0355037. November 2002. http://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/endocrine/pdf/bkh_report.pdf#page=76.

4. Extension Toxicology Network (EXTOXNET) Pesticide Information Profiles.

http://extoxnet.orst.edu/pips/ghindex.html

5. Yueh, MF et al. 2014. The commonly used antimicrobial additive triclosan is a liver tumor promoter. *PNAS* doi: 10.1073/pnas.141911911. *Triclosan promotes liver cancer cell development and proliferation in mice through pathways common to humans.*

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