

Chemical Factsheet

Ethephon

General Information

- Product Names:
 - Super Boll** (Nufarm)
 - Boll Buster** (Loveland)
 - Boll'd** (WinField)
 - Quali-Pro** (Control)
 - Setup** (Makhteshim)
 - Phoenix Cardinal** (United Phosphorus)
- Chemical Class: Organophosphate herbicide
- Uses: Agriculture, ornamental
- Alternatives: [Organic agriculture](#)
- Beyond Pesticides rating: [Toxic](#)

Health and Environmental Effects

See citations at end of document.

- Cancer: Insufficient evidence (1)
- Endocrine Disruption: Not documented
- Reproductive Effects: Not documented
- Neurotoxicity: Yes (1)
- Kidney/Liver Damage: Yes (1)
- Sensitizer/ Irritant: Yes (1)
- Birth/Developmental: Yes (1)
- Detected in Groundwater: Not documented
- Potential Leacher: Not documented
- Toxic to Birds: Not documented
- Toxic to Fish/Aquatic Organisms: Not documented
- Toxic to Bees: Not documented

Additional Information

- Regulatory Status:
 - [EPA Reregistration Eligibility Decision](#) (RED) signed (6/2006)
- Supporting information:
 - [Exttoxnet Pesticide Factsheet](#) (Extension Toxicology Network)
 - [PAN Pesticides Database](#): (Pesticide Action Network)
- Studies [compiled from the [Pesticide-Induced Diseases Database](#)]
 - [Proximity to residential and workplace pesticides application and the risk of progression of Parkinson's diseases in Central California](#). Li, S. et al. (2022) Proximity to residential and workplace pesticides application and the risk of progression of parkinson's diseases in Central California, Science of The Total Environment. Available at: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0048969722079542>.

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>.

Factsheet generated on February 1, 2026