

Chemical Factsheet

MCPB (4-(2-Methyl-4-chlorophenoxy) butyric acid)

General Information

- Product Names:
 - **MCPB Technical Acid** (Nufarm)
- Chemical Class: Phenoxy compound
- Uses: Registered for use on pea crops before flowering, for post-emergence control of broadleaf annual and perennial weeds including Canadian thistle, buttercup, mustard, purslane, ragweed, common lambsquarters, pigweed, smartweed, sowthistle, and morning glory.
- Alternatives: [Organic agriculture](#)
- Beyond Pesticides rating: [Toxic](#)

Health and Environmental Effects

See citations at end of document.

- Cancer: Possibly (1)
- Endocrine Disruption: Not documented
- Reproductive Effects: Not documented
- Neurotoxicity: Yes (2)
- Kidney/Liver Damage: Yes (2)
- Sensitizer/ Irritant: Not documented
- Birth/Developmental: Not documented
- Detected in Groundwater: Not documented
- Potential Leacher: Not documented
- Toxic to Birds: Yes (2)
- Toxic to Fish/Aquatic Organisms: Not documented
- Toxic to Bees: Not documented

Additional Information

- Regulatory Status:
 - [EPA Reregistration Eligibility Document](#) (RED) signed (3/2006)
 - [BP Comments February 2026](#)
- Supporting information:
 - [PAN Pesticide Database – MCPB](#) (Pesticide Action Network)
- Studies [compiled from the [Pesticide-Induced Diseases Database](#)]
 - [Combined exposure to low doses of pesticides causes decreased birth weights in rats.](#)
Hass U, Christiansen S, Axelstad M, Scholze M, Boberg J. 2017. *Reprod Toxicol.* 72:97-105

Gateway Health and Environmental Effects Citations

1. International Agency for Research on Cancer, World Health Organization (IARC) category, the agent (mixture) is possibly carcinogenic to humans. November 2, 2018.

<http://monographs.iarc.fr/ENG/Classification/index.php>

2. 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>.

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