

Chemical Factsheet

Nitrapyrin

General Information

- Product Names:
 - Instinct** (Dow)
 - N-Serve** (Dow)
 - N-Lock Nitrogen Stabilizer** (Makhteshim)
- Chemical Class: Unclassified microbicide
- Uses: Nitrification inhibitor used on corn, sorghum, wheat
- Alternatives: [Organic agriculture](#)
- Beyond Pesticides rating: [Toxic](#)

Health and Environmental Effects

See citations at end of document.

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

Additional Information

- Regulatory Status:
 - [EPA Reregistration Eligibility Decision](#) (RED) signed (04/2005)
- Supporting information:
 - [PAN Pesticides Database: Nitrapyrin](#)

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