

Chemical Factsheet

Naphthalene

General Information

- Fact Sheets: [Naphthalene.pdf](#), [Mothballs.pdf](#)
- Product Names:
 - Fusilade** (Syngenta)
 - Repel Pet and Stray Repellent** (Farnam Companies)
 - Bonide Shotgun Rabbit & Dog Repellent** (Bonide Products)
 - Lasso** (Monsanto), formulated with Chlorobenzene, [Alachlor](#)
 - Sears Naphthalene Moth Balls** (Willert Home Products)
 - Snake-A-Way Snake Repellent** (Dr. T's Nature Products), formulated with [Sulfur](#)
- Chemical Class: Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH)
- Uses: Indoor moth, squirrel, and bat repellent, outdoor repellent of animals such as snakes and rabbits
- Alternatives: [Least-toxic moth control](#)
- Beyond Pesticides rating: [Toxic](#)

Health and Environmental Effects

See citations at end of document.

- Cancer: Yes (1)
- Endocrine Disruption: Not documented
- Reproductive Effects: Not documented
- Neurotoxicity: Yes (2)
- Kidney/Liver Damage: Yes (3)
- Sensitizer/ Irritant: Yes (4)
- Birth/Developmental: Not documented
- Detected in Groundwater: Not documented
- Potential Leacher: Yes (5)
- 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 7/2008
- Supporting information:
 - [PAN Pesticides Database:Naphthalene](#) (Pesticide Action Network)
 - [EWG Naphthalene Factsheet](#) (Environmental Working Group)
 - [Scorecard Naphthalene Factsheet](#) (Environmental Defense Fund)
- Studies [compiled from the [Pesticide-Induced Diseases Database](#)]
 - [The nongenotoxic carcinogens naphthalene and para-dichlorobenzene suppress apoptosis in Caenorhabditis elegans](#), Kokel, D. 2006. Nature Chemical Biology 2: 338-345.
 - [Naphthalene and Reduced Fertility](#) (Beyond Pesticides Daily News Archive)

- [Halogenated POPs and PAHs in Blood Plasma of Hong Kong Residents](#). Qin YY, et al. 2011. Environ Sci Technol. [Epub ahead of print
- [Levels and sources of volatile organic compounds in homes of children with asthma.](#) Chin JY, Godwin C, Parker E, et al. 2014. Indoor Air. 24(4):403-15.

Gateway Health and Environmental Effects Citations

1. 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>
2. Environmental Defense Fund, Scorecard Database. <http://www.scorecard.org/chemical-profiles/>.
3. US EPA. Integrated Risk Information System Database. <http://www.epa.gov/iris/>.
4. Beyond Pesticides ChemWatch Factsheets. (Cited under factsheets on [Beyond Pesticides Gateway](#); see top of individual chemical page)
5. Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. ToxFAQs. <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp>.

Factsheet generated on June 15, 2026