Deadly Herbicides





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Introduction

- Weedkillers are commonly used in home gardens around the world.
- Rick Relyea conducted an experiment to test the effects of the brand Roundup on Amphibians. (1)

Introduction

 The use of glyphosate in the United States has grown in the last few decades from 17th most common pesticide/ herbicide to the second most common.
(2)



Killing How?

- The amphibians can be effected two ways to the herbicides, which are acute and chronic.
- Acute equals death, however, chronic toxicity cause other damages to the organism. (3)

Evidence?!

- Many studies, mainly conducted by Rick Relyea, have shown that herbicides effect the growth and mortality of amphibians.
- Another study on Wood Frogs has shown that herbicides decrease immune response as well. (4)

Evidence?!

- However, since there are still new formulations of herbicides being produced there is not information about each type.
 (6)
- Rick Relyea focuses mainly on brands like roundup that are a glyphosate with POEA.

Importance

- These herbicides are helpful for maintaining our native plant biodiversity but at the same time it is killing our amphibian diversity to high levels. (5)
- If this continues then many species will not be able to recover and will be eradicated.

Atrazine and Frogs

Interesting Effects of Atrazine on Male frogs

• https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=KtzMXsttX84

Referrences

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- (3) King, Jeffery J. and R Steven Wagner. 2010. Toxic effects of the herbicide Roundup Regular on pacific northwestern amphibians. Northwestern Naturalist 91:318-324.

Referrences

- (4) Gahl, Megan K., Bruce D. Pauli and Jeff E. Houlahan. 2011. Effects of chytrid fungus and a glyphosate-based herbicide on survival and growth of wood frogs (Lithobates sylvaticus). Ecological Applications 21:2521-2529.
- (5) Brodman, Robert, W. Dan Newman, Kristin Laurie, Sarah Osterfeld and Nicole Lenzo. 2010. Interaction of an aquatic herbicide and predatory salamander density on wetland communities. Journal of Herpetology 44:69-92.

References

 Blaustein, Andrew R., J.M. Romansic, J. M. Kiesecker, and A. C. Hatch. Ultraviolet Radiation, Toxic Chemicals, and Amphibian Population Declines. Diversity and Distributions 9:123-140.