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Congressional Record S. 1339 - Nelson re Mansfield Bill S. 3401 -Ban use of Persistent Pesticides

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vious year and, by 1985, it is estimated that they will increase another sixfold.

Reports indicate that about 1 acre of every 10 in America is treated with an average of nearly 4 pounds of pesticides every year.

The National Wildlife Federation reports roughly 75 percent of specimens of fish, birds, and mammals collected from various parts of the world, including the Arctic and Antarctic regions, contained DDT.

California marine scientists collected several hundred samples of fish and shellfish from the Pacific, in both salt water bays and the open sea. They reported 396 of the 400 samples analyzed contained measurable DDT residues.

NATIONAL PESTICIDE SURVEY

A 2-year national pesticide study recently completed by the U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife found DDT in 584 of 590 samples of fish taken from 45 rivers and lakes across the United States.

The study results showed DDT ranging up to 45 parts per million in the whole fish, a count more than nine times higher than the current FDA guideline level for DDT residues in fish.

Residues of DDT reached levels higher than the FDA's temporary limit of five parts per million in 12 of the rivers and lakes, including the Hudson in New York; the Delaware; the Cooper in South Carolina; St. Lucio Canal and the Apalachiocola in Florida; the Tombigbee in Alabama; the Rio Grande in Texas; Lake Ontario; Lake Michigan; the Arkansas and the White in Arkansas; and the Sacramento in California.

Residues of dieldrin, a pesticide even more toxic to humans than DDT, were found in excess of the 0.3 parts per million FDA limit in 15 rivers and lakes including the Connecticut; the Hudson; the Delaware; the Savannah in Georgia; the Apalachicola; the Tombigbee; the Rio Grande; Lake Ontarlo; Lake Huron; the Illinois in Illinois; the Arkansas and the White; the Red River in Minnesota; the San Joaquin in California; and the Rogue in Oregon.

In summary, the comprehensive survey found DDT in almost 100 percent of the fish samples, dieldrin in 75 percent, heptachlor and/or heptachlor epoxide in 32 percent, and chlordane in 22 percent.

Related research over the 4-year period, ending in 1968, has determined that more than 1,640,000 fish were kllled by pesticide pollution in the Nation's waters, the result of pesticide spills or runoff and concentration in our waters. Millions of more fish no doubt went unborn due to reproductive failures caused by pesticides.

Laboratory research has proven that pesticide levels in water, of even the low parts per billion, can be toxic to adult fish. Levels in low parts per trillion have been found to affect reproduction.

Already, the pesticide levels in Lake Michigan, the most pesticide polluted of the Great Lakes, are in the low parts per trillion range.

PESTICIDES IN DRINKING WATER

And findings released by the U.S. Public Health Service reported the detection of pesticides in 76 of 79 samples of drinking water supplies around the country. Although the Public Health Service report noted that so far the pesticide levels have not exceeded recommended permissible limits, the health service was concerned. The Public Health Service stated:

The high frequency of occurrence and our lack of knowledge of the long-term below effects of this class of compounds dictate the need for increased surveillance and research as well as for increased recognition of the potential of this problem by state and local health departments.

In summary, the already massive and still accumulating evidence on pesticides makes it clear that these toxic compounds have become one of the most serious problems of our environment and are threatening even greater worldwide damage. Pesticides have concentrated to the far ends of the earth; they are killing fish and wildlife; they have inhibited fish and wildlife reproduction high pesticide residues have pushed some fishfeeding birds and other animals to the edge of extinction, and now, there is increasing concern and evidence about the threats posed to man.

After last spring's action by the Food and Drug Administration's seizure of 28,000 pounds of pesticide-contaminated Coho salmon taken from Lake Michigan. it was hoped that the Federal Government would take some strong steps to eliminate pesticide pollution.

The report of the Pesticide Commission established by Health Secretary Finch was encouraging. It recommended an end of all nonessential uses of DDT and DDD within 2 years as well as st one restrictions on the use of other chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides.

These recommendations echoed the mandate that had been set forth seven years ago by a Presidential Science Advisory Committee that the goal of our national efforts should be the "elimination of the use of persistent toxic pesticides."

AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT FAILS

Then, in a widely-publicized announcement in November the Agriculture Department said that it was canceling certain uses of DDT.

However, the Departments plan never got off the ground when the pesticide industry quickly initiated a complex series of appeals that could delay final action for years.

Under the Agriculture Department's regulations, manufacturers who appeal a cancellation order can continue to produce and sell pesticides until the appeal is resolved.

It appears that the Department played right into the industry's hands by faling to use its statutory authority to suspend certain uses of DDT before starting the cancellation proceedings. If the Department is serious about protecting the quality of our environment from pesticide poisoning, it should move without further delay and immediately suspend all nonessential uses of DDT.

The pesticide industry's continued resistance to reform coupled with the Agriculture Department's historical hesitancy to act makes it mandatory that legislative deadlines be set for banning persistent pesticides.

S. 3401 THROUGH S 3408-INTRO-DUCTION OF BILLS TO BAN THE USE OF PERSISTENT PESTICIDES

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, on behalf of myself and the distinguished majority leader, the Senator from Montana (Mr. MANSFIELD), I introduce eight bills to ban eight of the most persistent, toxic pesticides presently used in the United States.

These eight bills will prohibit the interstate sale and shipment of eight insecticides in the chlorinated hydrocarbon family—aldrin, chiordane, DDD/ TDE, dieldrin, endrin, heptachlor, lindane and toxaphene. These proposals are similar to a bill I sponsored last year to ban DDT.

The long-term toxicity of chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides presents a deadly threat to fish, wildlife and the overall quality of the environment.

Twenty years ago, DDT and other emerging pesticides were acclaimed as the victors over diseases threatening man.

Their uses spread quickly to agricultural operations and later for the control of pests bothersome but not hazardous to man.

Their fame spread as did their use. Billions upon billions of pests have fallen victim to their dust, spray or powder.

But new strains of pests developed with increased resistance to DDT and other common pesticides.

Too often, instead of seeking more effective, more selective means of pest control, the reaction of most users has been to apply more, perhaps twice as much, to overcome the pest's newly attained resistance.

Pesticides have become a panacea to gardeners, farmers, entomologists and public officials as the easy way of solving a difficult problem of ecological balance. The highly publicized, but little understood, qualities of pesticides have encouraged many to use them in great quantities, regardless of the potential and too often ignored danger to the environment.

The result in too many cases has been new generations of harder-to-kill pests and massive pollution of our soil, water and air of toxic, persistent pesticides.

MORE THAN 900 MILLION POUNDS

Today, more than 900 million pounds of pesticides, including insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, rodenticides, and fumigrants, are used annually in the United States, about 4 pounds for every man, woman, and child in the United States, Last year, the sales of pesticides increased some 10 percent over the pre-

February 6, 1970

ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA

This package of eight bills to ban the chiorinated hydrocarbon pesticides by June 30, 1972, is part of the environmental agenda for the 1970's which I proposed on January 19. I plan to introduce additional legislation on jet aircraft pollution, detergent pollution, nonreturnable containers, and pollution of the sea.

As public support grows for improved regulation of pesticide use, the agricultural community and others warn of crop disasters and skyrocketing food prices without pesticides. But it is not an all or nothing situa-

But it is not an all or nothing situation. Effective, economical, alternative means of pest control have been developed to make many currently used persistent pesticides obsolete.

For example, the U.S. Department of Agriculture suggests an effective alternative for DDT on virtually every crop on which this most persistent, most expendable pesticide is presently used. In addition, a host of nonchemical means of pest control have been applied with great success in many parts of the country, including the development of crop varieties that resist insect attack, the introduction of natural enemies into the pest's environment, insect sterilization, and integrated procedures which combine chemical and biological control measures.

It seems unfortunate that neither the Agriculture Department nor industry has appeared willing to mount an all-out effort to improve alternative means of pest control.

The Agriculture Department has admitted that its programs to develop better nonchemical means of pest control were underfunded by at least \$4 million last year.

There is no indication in the Department's budget for the coming year that any substantial increase in funds will be available for expanded research in the fields of biological pest control, hormonal techniques, natural plant resistance, and cultural control.

There never has been any excuse for the indiscriminate spraying of DDT and other chlorinated hydrocarbons from aircraft when the result is massive pollution of nearby rivers, lakes, fields, and communities.

INTEGRATED PEST CONTROL

Greater efforts must be made to increase the use of scientific integrated pest control, which can best be defined as an insect population management system that depends primarily on the use of beneficial predator insects with very limited reliance on the use of selective chemicals.

Presently there are successful integrated pest control programs in operation on the following crops: cotton, citrus fruits, apples and pears, tomatoes, potatoes, avocados, olives, grapes, corn, eggplant, lettuce, strawberries, and others.

This means of pest control is based on the principles of applied ecology. In order for success to be achieved, the fields must be placed under periodic surveillance to determine when and where specific pest infestations occur. When a problem is discovered, predators, parasites, or disease organisms specifically related to that pest are released to bring the pests back into a favorable balance. Very limited amounts of pesticide may be used, but only when absolutely necessary, and only on the infested area of the crop.

Americans cannot afford to wait any longer to discard the persistent pesticides in favor of less damaging means of pest control. Our environment has already been the target of the indiscriminate and unnecessary use of hard pesticides for far too long.

The long range biological effects of the global contamination caused by pesticide pollution is immeasurable. It has pushed majestic birds and creatures of the sea to the brink of extinction. It has permeated the air, the lakes, the rivers, the oceans and the soil.

The time has come to end this needless attack on the environment.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of these bills be printed in the record. The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tem-

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The bills will be received and appropriately referred; and, without objection, the bills will be printed in the RECORD. The bills:

S. 3401, a bill to prohibit the sale or shipment for use in the United States of the chemical compound known as aldrin;

S. 3402, a bill to prohibit the sale or shipment for use in the United States of the chemical compound known as chlordane;

S. 3403, a bill to prohibit the sale or shipment for use in the United States of the chemical compound known as DDD/TDE;

S. 3404, a bill to prohibit the sale or shipment for use in the United States of the chemical compound known as dieldrin;

S. 3405, a bill to prohibit the sale or shipment for use in the United States of the chemical compound known as endrin:

S. 3406, a bill to prohibit the sale or shipment for use in the United States of the chemical compound known as heptachlor;

S. 3407, a bill to prohibit the sale or shipment for use in the United States of the chemical compound known as lindane;

S. 3408, a bill to prohibit the sale or shipment for use in the United States of the chemical compound known as toxaphene; introduced by Mr. NELSON; for himself and Mr. MANSFIELD, were received, read twice by their titles, referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, and ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3401

A bill to prohibit the sale or shipment for use or shipment for use in the United States of the chemical compound known as aldrin

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (61 Stat. 163; 7 U.S.C. 135-135k) is amended by adding at the end thereof a new section as follows:

"SEC. —. Notwithstanding any other provision of this or any other Act, after June 30, 1972, it shall be unlawful for any person to distribute, sell, or offer for sale in any territory or in the District of Columbia,

or to ship or deliver for shipment from any State, territory, or the District of Columbia, to any other State, territory, or the District of Columbia, or to receive in any State, territory, or the District of Columbia, from any other State, territory, or the District of Columbia, or a foreign country the chemical compound aldrin."

S. 3402

A bill to prohibit the sale or shipment for use in the United States of the chemical compound known as chlordane

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (61 Stat. 163; 7 U.S.C. 135-135k) is amended by adding at the end thereof a new section as follows: "Sec. —. Notwithstanding any other pro-

"SEC. —. Notwithstanding any other provision of this or any other Act, after June 30, 1972, It shall be unlawful for any person to distribute, sell, or offer for sale in any territory or in the District of Columbia, or to ship or deliver for shipment from any State, territory, or the District of Columbia, to any other State, territory, or the District of Columbia, or to receive in any State, territory, or the District of Columbia, from any other State, territory, or the District of Columbia, or a foreign country the chemical compound chlordane."

S. 3403

A bill to prohibit the sale or shipment for use in the United States of the chemical compound known as DDD/TDE

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled. That the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (61 Stat. 163; 7 U.S.C. 135-135k) is amended by adding at the end thereof a new section as follows:

"SEC. —. Notwithstanding any other provision of this or any other Act, after June 30. 1972, it shall be unlawful for any person to distribute, sell, or offer for sale in any territory or in the District of Columbia, or to ship or deliver for shipment from any State, territory, or the District of Columbia, to any other State, territory, or the District of Columbia, or to receive in any State, territory. or the District of Columbia, from any other State, territory, or the District of Columbia, or a foreign country the chemical compound 2,2 - bis (p-chlorophenyl) -1.1-dichlorethane, commonly known as DDD/TDE."

S. 3404

A bill to prohibit the sale or shipment for use in the United States of the chemical compound known as dieldrin

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Federal Insecticide, Fungleide, and Rodenticide Act (61 Stat. 163; 7 U.S.C. 135-135k) is amended by adding at the end thereof a new section as follows:

new section as follows: "SEC.— Notwithstanding any other provision of this or any other Act, after June 30. 1972, it shall be unlawful for any person to distribute, sell, or offer for sale in any territory or in the District of Columbia, or to ship or deliver for shipment from any State, territory, or the District of Columbia, to any other State, territory, or the District of Columbia, or to receive in any State, territory. or the District of Columbia, from any other State, territory, or the District of Columbia, or a foreign country the chemical compound dieldrin."

S. 3405

A bill to prohibit the sale or shipment for use in the United States of the chemical compound known as endrin

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of Amer-

Sebruary 6, 1970

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD - SENATE

ica in Congress assembled. That the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (61 Stat. 163; 7 U.S.C. 135-135k) is amended adding at the end thereof a new as follows:

as follows: "Src. --. Notwithstanding any other pro-vision of this or any other Act, after June 30, 1972. It shall be unlawful for any per-son to distribute, sell, or offer for sale in any territory or in the District of Columbia, or to ship or deliver for shipment from any State, territory, or the District of Columbia, to any other State, territory, or the District of Columbia, or to receive in any State, ter-ritory or the District of Columbia, from any ritory, or the District of Columbia, from any other State, territory, or the District of Co-lumbia, or a foreign country the chemical compound endrin.

S. 3406

A bill to prohibit the sale or shipment for use in the United States of the chemical compound known as heptachlor

compound known as heptachlor Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of Amer-ica in Congress assembled. That the Fed-eral Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (61 Stat. 163; 7 U.S.C. 135-135k) is amended by adding at the end thereof a new section as follows: "SEC. —.Notwithstanding any other provi-sion of this or any other Act, after June 30, 1972, it shall be unlawful for any person to distribute, sell, or offer for sale in any terri-tory or in the District of Columbia, or to ship or deliver for shipment from any State, ter-

or deliver for shipment from any State, ter-ritory, or the District of Columbia, to any other State, territory, or the District of Co-lumbia, or to receive in any State, territory, or the District of Columbia, or a foreign country the chemical compound heptachor."

S. 3407

A bill to prohibit the sale or shipment for use in the United States of the chemical compound known as lindane

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenti-cide Act (61 Stat. 163; 7 U.S.C. 135-135k) is amended by adding at the end thereof a new section as follows:

"SEC. --- Notwithstanding any other provision of this or any other Act, after June 30, 1972, it shall be unlawful for any person to distribute, sell, or offer for sale in any terri-tory or in the District of Columbia, or to ship or deliver for shipment from any State, territory, or the District of Columbia, to any other State, territory, or the District of Columbia, or to receive in any State, territory, or the District of Columbia, from any other State, territory, or the District of Columbia, or a foreign country the chemical compound benzene hexachloride, commonly known as lindane.'

S. 3408

A bill to prohibit the sale or shipment for use in the United States of the chemical compound known as toxaphene

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenti-cide Act (61 Stat. 163; 7 U.S.C. 135-135k) is amended by adding at the end thereof a new section as follows:

"SEC. —. Notwithstanding any other pro-vision of this or any other Act, after June 30, 1972, it shall be unlawful for any person to distribute, sell, or offer for sale in any ter-ritory or in the District of Columbia, or to ship or deliver for shipment from any State, territory, or the District of Columbia, to any other State, territory, or the District of Columbia, or to receive in any State, terri-tory, or the District of Columbia, from any other State, territory, or the District of Columbia, or a foreign country the chemical compound toxaphene.'