

Secondhand Pesticides



Analysis of pesticide drift reveals that several widely used pesticides are regularly found far from where they are applied, at levels that significantly exceed exposure levels deemed “safe” by regulatory agencies. Virtually everywhere pesticides are used, they drift away from their intended target and can persist for days and even months after application. These “second-hand pesticides,” like secondhand cigarette smoke, can cause serious adverse health effects and are forced on communities and workers against their will. It’s time for California agriculture to kick the pesticide habit, and for the agencies responsible to take action to protect public health by reducing and eliminating use of drift-prone pesticides.

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