

Pesticides on trial

On Dec. 3, the 27th anniversary of the Bhopal disaster, anti-pesticide advocates are bringing the six largest pesticide companies to trial. Or rather, to something called The Permanent People's Tribunal, an international body that "officially facilitates the trial, lacking any set of binding national laws." According to a recent press release from the North American branch of Pesticide Action Network (PAN), a group of attorneys, witnesses, and jurors will approximate a process that puts the companies -- Monsanto, Syngenta, Bayer, BASF, Dow, and Dupont, or the "Big 6" -- on trial, for what PAN calls "their crimes against humanity, including basic rights to life, livelihood and health" in Bangalore, India.

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