

## 5.3. Human health

Parameter	Source	Thresholds
Who Toxicity class:	WHO Guidelines 2004. Based on rat LD50 & physical state of the pesticide. See note 4.	See note 2.
EPA acute toxicity class (formulation):	Standard text book thresholds. These apply to the formulated product.	I - Highly toxic II - Moderately toxic III - Slightly toxic IV - Not acutely toxic  In some instances there is slight variation in product classification. In these instances multiple listings are given, unless there is no consensus across brands in which case the text reads 'No consensus across products'.
EC Risk classification:	Risk Information contained within Annex II and III of Directive 67/548/EEC on Classification and Labelling of Dangerous Substances.	
EC Safety classification:	Safety Information contained within Annex IV of Directive 67/548/EEC on Classification and Labelling of Dangerous Substances.	
ADI (mg kg <sup>-1</sup> bw):	The acceptable daily intake is the amount of a substance that can be ingested every day of an individual's entire lifetime, in the practical certainty, on the basis of all known facts, that no harm will result. SF – refers to the safety factor applied.	
AOEL (mg kg <sup>-1</sup> ):	The acceptable operator exposure level is the maximum amount of active substance to which the operator may be exposed without any adverse health effects. SF – refers to the safety factor applied.	
Dangerous substances directive:	This Directive requires Member States to introduce measures to eliminate (List I) or to reduce (List II) pollution of the aquatic environment from certain listed substances identified in its Annexes.	
Exposure limits:	An exposure limit is the concentration of a chemical in the workplace air to which most people can be exposed without experiencing harmful effects.	
MRL's - maximum residue limits:	These limits can change and the data given here is usually that proposed by EFSA. Data may not be complete. See EU database for further information.	
Drinking water MAC:	Maximum Admissible Concentration of the chemical in drinking water. The MAC for a chemical is derived from its ADI. The EU Drinking Water Directive imposes a maximum admissible concentration (EU MAC) for any individual pesticide compound of 0.1 mg l <sup>-1</sup> .	

### Notes

1. Consistent with EU Guidance. (9188/VI/97 rev. 8.) and

- I. Kerle EA, Jenkins JJ & Vogue PA (1996), Understanding pesticide persistence and mobility for groundwater and surface water protection. Oregon State University. EM 8561.
- II. Rao PSC & Hornsby AG (2004) Behaviour of pesticides in Soils and water. University of Florida. See <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/SS111>.
- III. See also Note 3 below.

2. Several relevant references which include:

- I. Van der Werf , HMG (1996) Assessing the impact of pesticides on the environment. Agriculture, Ecosystems & Environment, 60, 81-96.
- II. Jury WA, Spencer WF, & Farmer WJ (1984) Behaviour assessment model for trace organics in soil. III Application of screening model. J. Environ Qual. 13, 573-579.
- III. Kerle EA, Jenkins JJ & Vogue PA (1996) Understanding pesticide persistence and mobility for groundwater and surface water protection. Oregon State University. EM 8561.

3. Table below has been extracted from:

- I. Goss, D & Wauchope RD (1990) The SCR/ARS/CES Pesticide Properties Database. II using it with Soils data in a screening Procedure. In D.L. Weigmann Ed., Pesticides in the next decade: the challenge ahead, Virginia Resources Research Centre, Blacksburg, VA, USA pp471-493.

Potential for Particle-bound transport	Criteria
High	DT50 >= 40 days & Koc >= 1000 DT50 >= 40 days, Koc >= 500 & solubility = 0.5 mg/l
Low	DT50 <= 1 day DT50 <= 2 days & koc <= 500 DT50 <= 4 days, Koc <= 900 & solubility >= 0.5 mg/l DT50 <= 40 days, Koc <= 500 & solubility >= 0.5 mg/l DT50 <= 40 days, Koc <= 900 & solubility >= 2 mg/l
Medium	All other

4. Classification given below has been extracted from the WHO Guidelines document: The WHO recommended classification of pesticides by hazard & guidelines to classification. (2004). See <http://www.who.int/publications/en/>

Class	Ia:	extremely	hazardous
Class	Ib:	highly	hazardous
Class	II:	moderately	hazardous
Class	III:	slightly	hazardous
O:			Obsolete
NL:	Not listed		

5. Thresholds used have been selected to be consistent with industry guidelines, were developed, and are consistent with regulatory thresholds used in both the UK and EU.

6. The EU (Uniform Principles) (Annex VI of Directive 91/414/EEC) guidelines have been adopted have set toxicity:exposure (TER) ratios for algae and aquatic plants at 1/10th of those for fish and daphnids. The same ratio has been applied here.

7. In EU pesticide regulatory risk assessments 'hazard quotients' are used to determine the need for additional studies to assess risk to beneficial arthropods. Hazard quotients (HQ) are determined by dividing the Predicted Environmental Concentration (PEC) of the active substance by the median lethal rate (LR50). HQ values less than 2.0 are considered to be low risk to beneficial arthropods and additional (higher tier) data are not required. Values greater than 2.0 trigger additional data requirements. As the PEC is not known we are unable to provide an interpretation.
8. SCI-GROW is a screening model used by the US EPA to estimate pesticide concentrations in vulnerable groundwater. The model provides an exposure value that can be used to determine the potential risk to the environment and to human health from drinking water contaminated with the pesticide. The SCI-GROW estimate is based on environmental fate properties of the pesticide (aerobic soil degradation half-life and linear adsorption coefficient normalised for soil organic carbon content), the maximum application rate, and existing data from small-scale prospective ground-water monitoring studies at sites with sandy soils and shallow ground water.

SCI-GROW estimates represent worse case estimates. For this reason, it is not appropriate to use SCI-GROW concentrations for national or regional exposure estimates. Nor is this indicator an alternative to a scientific risk assessment. Values given are based on a standard  $1 \text{ kg ha}^{-1}$  or  $1 \text{ L ha}^{-1}$  application rate and should be adjusted to the actual application rate used

For more information see: [http://www.epa.gov/oppefed1/models/water/scigrow\\_description.htm](http://www.epa.gov/oppefed1/models/water/scigrow_description.htm).

9. The distribution of a pesticide between the solution and adsorbed phases can often be described by the "Freundlich equation", an equation that is used to describe a wide variety of adsorption data from every area of science. The equilibrium concentration and adsorbed pesticide amounts are determined experimentally. The Log10 of the quantity of adsorbed pesticide is plotted against the equilibrium concentrations. Often the relationship obtained is approximately linear and can be described by the Freundlich equation:  $Q=KC_1/n$ , where Q is the adsorbed amount of pesticide ( $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ ), C is the equilibrium concentration ( $\mu\text{g l}^{-1}$ ), and  $k_f$  and n are the experimental parameters unique to the isotherm. The parameter n is greater than 1, the larger it is the more non-linear the equation becomes.
10. The availability of the pesticide in the soil can depend on the amount of soil organic carbon (SOC). The toxicity endpoint value may therefore be corrected for the difference in SOC of the test soil and the reference soil. This means that the toxicity endpoint value is divided by the percentage organic matter in the standard test soil, and multiplied by the percentage organic matter in the reference soil. Uncorrected values are quoted herein unless otherwise stated e.g. '(corr)'.  
$$\text{Corrected Value} = \frac{\text{Test Soil Value} \times \text{Reference Soil \% OM}}{\text{Test Soil \% OM}}$$
11. Data is very limited and is presented in the literature in a variety of formats. Therefore neither a standard format nor interpretation can be provided.