



PPDB – Pesticide Properties Database and related services

The PPDB is a comprehensive relational database of over 1800 pesticides and their metabolites. Whilst it will be of interest to a wide range of individuals, it has principally been developed to support risk assessments. Data held includes registration information, physical chemical properties, toxicological endpoints, human health data and commercial information.

How is data collated and managed?

Data is collated primarily from registration documents but also from a wide range of other sources. A unique confidence barometer is used to convey the reliability of the data.

The data is stored in an MS Access database. A Microsoft Visual Basic data management application has been developed to manage the data adhering to strict formatting and quality control protocols and to keep track of versions, literature references and record cross-referencing. Another Visual Basic application is used to filter the data, handle the various language translations and generate the thousands of HTML pages for the PPDB website. The database undergoes frequent independent peer review.

How is it accessed and used?

There are two ways of accessing the database. A free-to-all website (<http://sitem.herts.ac.uk/aeru/ppdb/en>) provides access to the bulk of the data in a tabular format. This website also calculates basic indices and displays layman's interpretations of the data. There is also a search facility, user support information and translation into several key European languages.



The MS Access database may also be licensed for use and can be used to support research programmes or embedded into software applications. Two versions of this database are available. The basic version holds the same data given on the website. An advanced version holds more detailed data related to soil degradation and adsorption.

Related services

The PPDB management team also offer similar services for veterinary substances (<http://sitem.herts.ac.uk/aeru/vsdb>) and biopesticides (<http://sitem.herts.ac.uk/aeru/bpdb>). The database management team also offer data collation, formatting and evaluation services.

