

Dear reader,

We found Forever Chemical TFA in 94% of water samples all over Europe. The main responsible: PFAS pesticides. We advocate for a total ban. Meanwhile, the EU Member States proposed to weaken water protection and decided to renew the licence for some very problematic pesticides. But the small region of Brussels shows the big brother European Commission the way forward.

The PAN Europe Team

News from the team



EU-Wide Drinking Water Testing Finds TFA in 94 % of Samples

We found TFA (trifluoroacetate) everywhere in EU water bodies. Next, we analysed 55 tap and mineral water samples from 11 EU countries. Bad news: most water is contaminated with this small PFAS. Not critical yet, but only swift action can prevent worse. [Read more.](#)

EU Commission spreads unscientific information

A recent EU communication says that the use and risk of chemical pesticides decreased by 46% compared to 2015-2017. Miraculous, for it contradicts Eurostat's pesticide sales data which show no clear decrease in pesticide use. [Read more.](#)



Brussels the first region to ban synthetic pesticides in agriculture

The region of Brussels shows its big brother the European Commission the way forward. No more synthetic pesticides on agricultural land in 2030. And a ban on the use of synthetic pesticides by others than farmers in 2025. [Read more.](#)

The effects of EU-produced pesticides in other continents

"Every time the planes pass by, your eyes start burning and your arms itch. The smell is terrible, you often feel nauseous. They say these chemicals are used to export fruit but they shower us with pesticides every morning and evening," says Lidieth Gomez from Costa Rica. [Read more.](#)

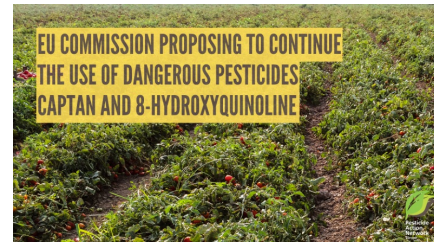


Bayer & BASF: A business model that pollutes our drinking water?

The PFAS herbicide Flufenacet pollutes our water with TFA, the smallest PFAS. It is sold in Bayer products like Bastille, Fosburi, Gofer and Promess and in BASF products like Chocker, Crespa, Pontos and Shooter. How long can they stay on the market? [Read more.](#)

EU Commission continues the use of dangerous pesticides

The EU committee on pesticides SCoPAFF contradicts EFSA's scientific conclusions. Captan is one of the most used fungicides in Europe. It is suspected to be carcinogenic and toxic to reproduction and pollutes the drinking water. Some studies link it to Parkinson's disease. [Read more.](#)



EU barometer shows: citizens demand a healthy environment

The new Eurobarometer on Europeans and the environment shows that 84% of EU citizens are worried about harmful chemicals. They agree EU legislation is necessary to protect the environment. And 78% of citizens agree the environment has an effect on their health. [Read more.](#)

Farming without harming: policy action for resilient agriculture

Integrated pest management (IPM) can decrease pesticide dependency. We convened policymakers, scientists, farmers, and civil society to highlight the potential of agroecological systems. [Watch the recording.](#)



The EU Member States' attack on water protection

The EU needs better protection of its water, but representatives of Member States don't seem to understand. The European Council (Member States) intends to severely weaken a new proposal to protect our waters. [Read more.](#)

Highlights from Members

PFAS pesticides cause havoc in the UK

PAN Europe recently revealed that PFAS pesticides residues are found in many fruits and vegetables. We also showed that one of their breakdown products TFA is omnipresent in surface, ground and drinking water all over Europe. Our colleagues from PAN UK and FIDRA show that the UK is facing the same pollution problem. [Read more.](#)



Aerial pesticide spraying on rice fields in Spain are illegal

Spraying pesticides on crops from planes or helicopters is explicitly prohibited by law. Following a complaint from Ecologistas en Acción, the Spanish Ombudsman reiterates that aerial spraying of rice fields with pesticides not authorised for this method is illegal. [Read more.](#)

PFAS and very toxic pesticides in 92% of Dutch strawberries

Most conventional strawberries are not suitable for children. That is concluded by PAN Netherlands after testing 15 samples for pesticides. One to three different PFAS pesticides were present on 69% of the strawberries and almost half of the samples contained other very toxic pesticides. [Read more.](#)



Please support our work!

Our work to eliminate the use of toxic pesticides is more important than ever before! With your support, we can change policies and practices for the better protection of our health and environment.

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