

Dear reader,

Our drinking water is in danger due to widespread contamination with TFA. We are crossing another planetary boundary, according to a group of scientists. Dozens of endocrine-disrupting, neurotoxic and carcinogenic pesticides were found in Belgian bedrooms. The EU drags its feet on addressing water pollution. And 59 endocrine-disrupting pesticides were detected in Spanish food. Plus news from the EU's secretive SCoPAFF pesticide committee.

The PAN Europe Team

## News from the team

#### TFA is polluting our water – We have crossed a Planetary boundary

Without realising it, we are crossing a new planetary boundary. A small human-made molecule is increasingly polluting our drinking water on a global scale. It has been detected in tap water, groundwater and even in some



bottled and mineral waters. We drink it daily and give it to our children. Its concentrations are rising and recent studies indicate that it may be toxic to reproduction. It is nearly indestructible and difficult to remove, so it will be there for generations to come. <u>Read more</u>.



#### We call for an emergency ban on Flufenacet

A coalition of 49 environmental and health organisations is now urging the European Commission and Member States to immediately ban Flufenacet. The top-selling PFAS Bayer and BASF herbicide is harmful to humans and

the environment, according to the latest scientific opinion of the EU Food Safety Authority (EFSA). It is suspected to act as an endocrine disruptor and to affect brain development. It also releases the major water contaminant, Trifluoroacetic Acid (TFA) into surface and groundwater. Its widespread use on common crops puts both farmers and consumers at risk. Read more.

#### The EU drags its feet on addressing water pollution

It has been two years since the European Commission published its proposal POLLUTIO to update the lists of EU priority pollutants that should be monitored and regulated in EU waters. With a number of harmful substances still not regulated under these lists, posing high risks for human health, this update to protect Europe's precious waters is needed urgently, but EU institutions are delaying action. <u>Read more</u>.





#### Reinstate pesticides in policies - 260,000 EU citizens demand it

A quarter million Europeans signed a new petition that urges the European Commission to prioritise pesticide reduction. It was presented today, ahead of the hearings for the incoming Commissioners. Read more.

#### News from the EU's secretive SCoPAFF pesticide committee

Important decisions in relation to some toxic pesticides were taken in the recent meeting of the EU pesticide committee SCoPAFF, behind closed doors. Two PFAS pesticides will be banned, but only because the



manufacturers retracted the application. It remains urgent for the Commission and Member States to take measures to ban all PFAS pesticides to protect our drinking water and health. Read more.

## **Highlights from Members**



SOS Bedroom: dozens of endocrine disrupting, neurotoxic and carcinogenic pesticides found in Flemish bedrooms

Every year, concerned citizens reach out to Velt (Flemish environmental NGO) because they are exposed to pesticide sprays. This is the reason Velt

carried out the 'SOS Bedroom' citizens survey. "The goal was to see if we find pesticides in our bedrooms. And if so, in what quantity", explains Geert Gommers, pesticide expert at Velt. Read more.

#### 59 endocrine-disrupting pesticides detected in Spanish food

According to the study "Straight to Your Hormones" by our member, Ecologistas en Acción, food sold in Spain in 2022, both imported and stateproduced, had residues of 106 pesticides. The study analyses the latest official data from the Spanish Agency for Food Safety and Nutrition (AESAN). Read more.





#### PAN Netherlands n° 14 in Sustainable Top 100

PAN Netherlands is happy with 14th place in the Sustainable Top 100 organised by the Dutch newspaper Trouw. It is a great recognition of the work and commitment. Our congratulations go to number 1 of the Sustainable 100:

'Rights for Nature` and all other winners. The Rights for Nature movement literally gives trees, rivers and endangered species a voice. By speaking up for them as 'guardians', at government offices and in court cases, people protect nature. Read more.

## Important new publications on pesticides

- Neonicotinoids Impact All Aspects of Bird Life
- Child of Flower Lady's death linked to pesticides (French)

## **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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