Healthy workers a key in Europe’s growth model

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Why are we in Danish trade unions so active about the use of pesticides?
Risk of spraying

Historical overview

- Late 80’ Ban pesticides in public parks
- Early 90’ Human and environment
- Middel 90’ Map of municipalities' pesticides use
- Late 90’ For Nature sake
- Middel 90’ Green care
- Late 90’ Pesticide ban at cemeteries
- Late 90’ Agreement between the Government and municipalities’ to minimize pesticid use
Risk of spraying

Historical overview

- Late 90’ Spray operators training (DK-EU)
- Early 00’ focus on the costs of using pesticides
- Middel 00’ Problems for pregnant workers in greenhouses
- Middel 00’ Focus on Re-entry
- Late 00’ Action on endocrine disrupting pesticides
- Early 10’ Approval of spraying equipment
- Late 10’ nano pesticides?????
Risk of spraying

Trade Union’s interest

Why are we in Danish trade unions so active about the use of pesticides?

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Approval of pesticides

- Why approves EU for example, pesticides that giving endocrine disruption, cancer, harm your onborn baby?
- Why do not many have focus on the possibility to substitute the highly hazardous pesticides with other methods or less hazardous pesticides?
- Why isn’t there a better interconnection between health and safety authorities and EPA before approval a pesticides?
Training and instruction

• Ensure that spray operators have the proper training
• Ensure that the spray operators get the update courses
• Ensure that you have prepared a proper workplace assessment
• Ongoing updates workplace assessment
Risk of spraying

Pregnant

• Organized work
  – Both women and men
  – Before, during and after pregnancy
  – Endocrine disrupters

For pregnant women working in greenhouse
  – www.gravidigartneri.dk
Conclusions

• The use of pesticides is that necessary
• More focus on H&S problems for spray operators
• More focus on the cost of pesticides use
• Is it possible to substitute?
• Will sustainable use of pesticides create jobs?