

19th October 2008

THE EFFECTS OF PESTICIDE EXPOSURE

- STATEMENT FOR THE PERMANENT PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL

I. PAST EXPOSURE HISTORY.

The chemicals to which I was exposed as a child and up until 1971 are largely unknown save for DDT which was commonly used at home. However my father, grandfather and uncles all worked on farms and my earliest memories are of times spent in the grain stores, and feeding hens, pigs, and cattle, and in the fields with my father.

The chemicals my father was exposed to were powerful and my mother recalls the day in the 1950s when he came home covered from head to foot in a white powder. His eyes changed colour from hazel, like my own, to bright blue, bulging from the sockets and they never returned to normal. He later suffered with sinus problems, bone degeneration, frightening dreams, constricted chest, and was forced to leave farming. I suffered a period of paralysis at that time with both legs locked solid which lasted seemingly for some weeks but which was never explained. There were also periods when as a child I suffered with severe "cold sores" which covered my face and sealed my nose with scabs.

We still visited, and often worked on, the farms where my relatives were employed even when we left the farm.

As a teenager I suffered a period of ill health following work shovelling stored grain (presumably treated) on one of those farms from which it took several months to recover. Doctors failed to find the cause.

My father and mother divorced and he died aged about 62 from a heart attack.

My mother, my wife, and three of my sisters have all had breast cancer. My brother has had speech difficulties since having convulsions as a child and my daughter was born with a cleft pallet.

I began work on the Isle of Wight on a dairy farm in the winter of 1968/1969 and then on a large arable farm but had little contact with pesticides since we were allotted specific jobs and mine involved spreading fertiliser prior to the spraying operations. My first spraying work was in the next job working on a farm with sheep, milking cows, pigs, cereal crops and potatoes. The farmer insisted that we filled the sprayer from streams and ponds and mixed the powdered sprays with our unprotected hands in a bucket before adding them to the rest of the water in the spray tank.

I have no record of the chemical name but it was used to control Potato Blight.

From there I moved to a dairy, beef and arable farm in 1971 but did little crop spraying save for herbicide on barley.

However I was responsible for making the cattle cake from 1972 and every year from then on the barn in which I worked every day was treated with insecticide to control mites, flour moths, and weevils. During the early years this insecticide treatment took the form of annual release of chemical from smoke generators, which left a coating of chemical over every surface. I began keeping ever more detailed records of my work on the farm in 1974 but chemicals used seemed unimportant, as we believed them to have been tested and proven safe.

On 21st January 1976 we cleaned and treated barley for seed with a mercury seed dressing and I had sown the seed by the 31st January 1976. A delivery of 16 tons of barley arrived on the 5th February 1976 and by the 8th I was off work with what appeared to be flu and bronchitis, which, the doctor suggested, was borderline for hospitalisation. We do not know if the grain delivery had been treated with insecticide but the UK Pesticide Safety Directorate report that Actellic was first used on grain in the early 1970s. Malathion was also used for grain treatments at this time.

I returned to work, still unwell, in order to give the cowman his holiday on 22nd February 1976.

After the farming partnership split up in 1978 our employer insisted on higher grain and grass yields and better quality feeds, demanding greater use of chemicals. We managed to produce more than twice the produce from fewer acres of land but with increased chemical use. I was then responsible for all spraying operations and kept detailed records.

The use of Warblecides became compulsory and we realised that despite wearing the gloves when we treated the cattle we were exposed to fumes and contact with the oily liquid during milking and when handling the cattle after treatment.

We asked what symptoms could follow the organophosphorus exposure but were not told. We drank the milk from the treated cows and it was not for some years that withholding times for milk from treated cows was introduced.

Our cowman also treated the cows with Gamma HCH louse powder and cypermethrin fly controls at various times during the year. He died later with Lymph cancer and his son developed testicular cancer but survived.

In the barn containing the grain store Actellic D Liquid was sprayed thoroughly after cleaning every year and the Actellic smoke generators were also used. Now that the persistence of the chemical is known this would have resulted in daily exposures to the chemical when working in the barn and on the machinery stored there in addition to any hazard in welding treated surfaces and contaminated machinery since the welder and workshop was also in the barn next to the grain store and milling machinery. The cattle ate treated grain and there would have been further exposure from feeds.

In April 1980 a problem with the maggots of a fly which were destroying part of the barley crop required the spraying of Strikol BHC and I found the need to increase the protection worn to avoid breathing difficulties, headaches, sweating etc.

Similar problems were then found with Gamma-Col (Lindane) and Talon (chlorpyrifos) both used to control leather jackets, in cereal crops and grassland respectively.

When using Actellic I could never understand why breathing difficulties and headaches were always accompanied by diarrhoea but put it down to one of life's mysteries. I now know that these are the milder symptoms of poisoning.

On 27th January 1982 between milking the cows I helped a staff member clean a ditch using shovels. The ditch drained from the yard and contained slurry and chemicals from the milking parlour. We found a dead chicken in the ditch.

Coincidentally the next day a cow gave birth to a grossly deformed calf after a Caesarian operation. The cow later died and we were told not to mention the incident to anyone. The ditch was finished on the 3rd but by 8th February both of us were off sick and the doctor was called to a similar situation as in the earlier illness mentioned. I returned to work, again milking for the cowman's holiday on 16th February 1982 and did not have another day off sick until the farm was sold.

However, there were other problems connected to pesticides.

In the Autumn of 1985 the two 60 ton hardboard grain bins collapsed spilling grain throughout the barn.

New bins were erected and refilled but despite Actellic treatment with both smokes and Actellic D a serious mite infestation developed. I was advised to re-treat the bins and barn and incorporate Actellic dust into the grain. This also failed to control the mites and so I was advised to treat the bins again and I remarked at how the chemical was having an effect on my health but the mites seemed healthy. Despite face shield and sunglasses some of the liquid managed to drip down from the roof and directly into my right eye. The repeated use of the chemical, despite wearing full protection including respirator, induced the usual symptoms but it began to affect my vision and I became sensitive to light with running nose and eyes. At one point I forgot where I was and how I came to be in a shop but the moment passed and all

was well again. But there was temporary total loss of vision at one stage and, frightened that I may have a serious problem, I reported to an optician who could find no explanation for the event. Gradually I recovered but the running eyes and nose and some sensitivity to light remained. From then on I was even more careful when spraying the barn with Actellic D and used a 12-foot long pole to keep the spray lance at a distance from me but still had headaches, stomach upsets, diarrhoea, and a tight chest while using the chemical.

It is important to note that after this time I was exposed to Actellic every day when milling, mixing and cubing the barley, feeding the cattle and milking the cows fed the feed in the parlour, in addition to working in the barn on and with machinery, and shovelling the grain treated with Actellic Dust.

I understand that the body can become accustomed to regular, sub-acute exposures and I was in apparently perfect health when the farm was sold in November 1991 after a very busy time milking and preparing for the farm sale. The farm became part of a larger estate and I worked in various parts, including the sold farm, but was no longer exposed daily to the treated grain or barn. I believe this is significant, as my body may have then lost its protection system.

2. THE EXPOSURE WHICH BEGAN MY LONG-TERM PROBLEMS.

The new owner of the farm also owned the farm from where we worked. On the 6th January we were instructed to empty "that sprayer". I assumed that it was the trailed sprayer that was used for field operations but I was wrong. Another member of staff had moved a sprayer tank, which was on a pallet, into the middle of the yard with a fork lift.

I needed a lift with the fork lift and asked him to help. Before he could do that he said he had to take the pipes off of the sprayer pump. He was one side of the fork lift arm and I was the other. Nothing came out of his pipe and so he asked me to take off the pipe on my side. Thinking there would only be a little water in the pump which he wanted to remove to protect it from the frost I removed the pipe and to my horror the sprayer was filled with what I thought was Actellic D, stored since the grain store had been sprayed before harvest, probably the previous July. I was angry that the chemical was in the sprayer and told them that the chemical always made me ill but they just laughed.

They all complained about the smell from the chemical. I actually apologised to a chemical salesman friend about the smell on my waxed cotton trousers and overalls when he saw me two days later. (He cannot confirm this as, like his predecessor in the job, he later died from a brain tumour - but not before he banned all Actellic and pirimiphos methyl products from his home and garden) The washed barn sprayer I last used in 1991 still smells of Actellic D.

Despite claims to the contrary scientific analysis proves that the chemical does NOT break down rapidly in water.

I helped sow wheat that weekend but found concentration difficult and was easily tired. I even lost my way on the regular route to work. The following week was spent in the yard with the smell, and

grovelling about in the mud picking up rubbish and bits of scrap metal. On the 15th January 1992 I had to work in the manhole into which the yard drained and remove broken concrete and blocks which had fallen into it. Cleaning out the manhole gave direct skin contact to the mud around the blocks and brought my head close to the surface of the ground. We also cleared out a loft and I swept away some spilt white powder which I was later told was hydrated lime but we cannot be certain. Rolls of plastic electric

rabbit netting were spread out over the area on which the chemical spilled and I re-rolled them to tidy things up so I may have had further contact with the chemical. Meanwhile the complaints of headaches and stomach upset from the other staff members continued. That night I thought I was getting the flu and next day I was not at all well and the foreman took the afternoon off because his headaches had become unbearable. (He has since suffered serious heart problems, what appears to have been a stroke, and also has back problems. His wife has also suffered with breast cancer.)

Somehow I managed to get through the day but next day I was too ill to get out of bed with breathing difficulties, nausea, running nose and streaming eyes, terrible headaches, palpitations and pains in the chest, and sweating even though I felt cold. A crazy repetitive "dream" took over my mind every time I closed my eyes and although I wanted to go to work I did not have the strength to get out of bed and yet I could not sleep.

3. TREATMENTS AND DIAGNOSIS

Early symptoms included

Flu-like Symptoms	Chest Pains	Fever and Shivering	Hallucinations	Breathing Difficulty
Rapid Heart Beat	Profuse Sweating (even when cold)	Sore Throat	Cold sores	

On the Saturday I was so ill that I could not even talk to the Doctor who appears to have given me steroids in addition to inhalers, which had no effect, and antibiotics. He suggested I would be back at work in days. Things did not improve and bad cold sores developed and my own GP called again on the Monday prescribing more antibiotics and steroids. This also did not help and so he prescribed Erythroped and Nuelin (Erythromycin and Theophylline). The latter is contraindicated in OP poisoning and the former increases the risk of adverse effects from the latter! The heart problems which followed, severe palpitations and tachycardia, caused my GP to instruct me to stop the Nuelin immediately.

Specialists insisted on more steroids and more inhalers but nothing worked and a heart condition was suspected. Further slight exposures followed visits to the farm and each time the problems worsened, usually after a delay of about 3 days.

Other contraindicated drugs were tried and eventually I was referred to Guy's National Poisons Unit, London and forced to report the incident to the Health & Safety Executive because of the possibility of poisoning. They failed to investigate.

There I was told that because of my exposure history my body did not react in the normally expected way to the January exposure since earlier exposures changed the response pattern. The toxicologist was concerned about my vision and suggested I would need to see at least 5 specialists urgently. They ignored the opportunity for testing presented by another accidental exposure resulting from the use of equipment used in the grain store, which caused a relapse and I was not admitted for tests for another 9 months.

The tests showed heart arrhythmias, tachycardia and bradycardia, a delay in the heart mechanism consistent with OP poisoning, reduced lung capacity, cognitive defects, visual field abnormalities, and return nerve signals "diffused" in some way. Visual problems were eventually said to be due to brain, optic nerve and autonomic nervous system damage.

Whilst actually in the ward at Guy's hospital I was talking to the nurses when suddenly I "lost" all the vision in half the visual field of both eyes. As a result I could only see things in the right half of my vision. I understand that this happens in stroke victims and that it is known as hemianopia.

In the notes it simply states "Drs aware".

Interestingly, despite the admission for suspected poisoning by pirimiphos methyl for which Guy's had specific testing procedures they actually avoided using those tests and tested for Lindane instead. Surprisingly they did not find that chemical either despite the fact that organochlorines are more persistent than OPs.

(in 2007 I obtained the complete set of cholinesterase results for those blood tests and they show a 35% drop in cholinesterase when comparing tests taken some 7 months after the exposure with those taken a year later.)

Despite that evidence they later withdrew their view that my early symptoms were consistent with OP poisoning, refused to release the medical records, and have produced confusing and misleading reports on the cause of my illness.

They raised a potential viral cause for the symptoms but could not itemise the symptoms caused by the virus and in any event they have no measured results for anti-bodies and simply refer to a "positive" test for Coxsackie B virus.

However, this virus is in a large percentage of the population, is very short-lived, and was referred to as "a recent infection" some 18 months after the incident.

Another potential explanation for some, but not all of the symptoms was suggested to be cervical spondylosis but this was dismissed as nonsense by my GP as everyone has a degree of this degeneration and it offered no explanation for the cardio-respiratory and nervous system effects for which I had been referred to the Poisons Unit.

In fact the senior doctor at the poisons unit, who had never examined me, wrote three letters on the same day, 2nd December 1994, just one week after a writ for negligence was served on my former employer. One letter was to my GP withdrawing the diagnosis and denying even that the initial symptoms were consistent with OP poisoning. Another was to the HSE telling them what he had done. There is now evidence to show that the HSE gave the Poisons Unit false information indicating that there had been no exposure to OPs and therefore no possibility of poisoning. There is evidence to show that a false statement made at a fictitious address on behalf of the employer's insurers, long before any

claim began, was used to influence the HSE and later the courts. One of the letters written by the doctor indicates that he had reviewed the diagnosis because of the Parliamentary Ombudsman's investigation into the failure of the HSE to investigate. Hospital staff later admitted that the decision was a political, and not a medical, one.

The third letter was written to the Benefits Agency and in this letter the doctor confirmed that my case fitted the criteria for PDC3, Causative Agent 4 (poisoning by organophosphorus pesticides), and that despite all investigations they were unable to find an alternative diagnosis. At the time neither my GP nor I had any knowledge of PD C3 Causative Agent 4 but it was introduced in 1958 as a means to compensate those made disabled by such exposures whilst at work.

Another two specialists also confirmed that my symptoms were directly caused by exposure to OPs and their solvents but there are inaccuracies in one report, which for some unknown reason denied that visual problems are related to OP exposure. Few appear to know about the research demonstrating and confirming the effects of exposure on vision.

On the basis of false the denials by the doctor mentioned above the DSS claim that my symptoms are the result of Somatisation Syndrome and my efforts to overturn that obviously false opinion were sabotaged during numerous court hearings. For example in February 2001 a Commissioner

refused to censure officials despite the fact that a DSS tribunal in 1999 acted unlawfully and refused to allow submission of medical records which show the physical changes caused by the OP exposure. All officials ignore the inhalation risk completely.

A doctor chosen by the High court examined the case and her 1999 report also supported the poisoning diagnosis.

Since the exposure in January 1992 I have become even more susceptible to pesticides and have had relapses and / or been forced to stay indoors for weeks when Lindane, Roundup, Dursban and other chemicals have been used in the surrounding fields. Paints can be a real problem, as can oils, and fumes from motor vehicles. The most limiting factor is the reaction to perfumes and washing products to which there can be severe reactions.

Only after all the doctors had commented on my case did I discover by chance in June 2001 that the chemicals to which I was exposed were in actual fact in an illegal mixture. It was admitted that the sprayer did not merely contain the Actellic D which I had recognised immediately, but it was an illegal mixture of two OPs, the other being Reldan 50 with the active ingredient chlorpyrifos methyl, plus the solvents Solvesso 100 which is admitted to be harmful to the respiratory system, and 1,1-trichloroethane. No one, not even the manufacturers knew the true toxic potential of this mixture.

Nor can they deny that it could have such effects on my body because they simply do not know.

However the general dangers are known and the use of all these chemicals is being restricted as a result.

Even with this evidence of obvious employer negligence the deception continued in the courts and as a result a group litigation action in the High Court failed. There is evidence that banisters and solicitors failed to properly represent the cases by withholding information from the courts, and by failing to challenge or relying on, false statements.

The Government was a co-defendant in the case. The Police, so far, refuse to investigate the criminal actions involved.

The deception employed in that negligence case also undermined the benefits claim and although the incident is officially recognised as an industrial accident and the official diagnosis, supported by GPs and specialists, is one of poisoning, the officials of government still deny poisoning. They admit that there was an industrial injury which was exposure to the illegal mixture of organophosphates and solvents, that the symptoms are genuine, that they are the symptoms of poisoning, that the incident caused disability "for life", and that I am in need of a carer.

But. They repeat the words of the dishonest doctor above who persuaded Benefits Agency doctors to strike from their records their findings of peripheral neuropathy and denied the possibility of poisoning stating that I was simply suffering "*from a mind-set that believes in poisoning.*" I understand that the toxicologist and the doctor are employed and funded by the chemical companies — and that all toxicologists in the Health Service are sub-contracted from the industry.

4. CURRENT PROBLEMS

Currently the symptoms are similar to those previously reported although there is more pain in the bones, the vision is deteriorating, digestive problems continue to be a nuisance and my GP prescribes antacids in attempts to control the rising acid which burns the throat and damages the teeth which either crumble away or become loose and fall out.

The heart rate is erratic, especially on exercise, the circulation cannot be good as I still suffer with cold hands and feet and feel the cold more than I should, and yet my wife says I radiate heat and the sweat pours from me at times, even when I feel cold. It is difficult to tell if the temperature of the bath water is safe with my hands and feet and it can be painful if I get it wrong. Interestingly, unless

he used some sort of trick, I was unable to feel the vibrations from the "tuning fork" device in my ankles or even my forehead when tested by the DSS at the tribunal in 1999 yet I could feel it on my elbow. I checked this myself with equipment in hospital while visiting with my wife for her cancer check-ups and

could feel no vibrations at all. This was confirmed again by a DSS medical examiner in January 2003 who declared that this was peripheral neuropathy — a serious OP symptom prevented, it is claimed, by pre-approval testing. I still have the "odd sleeps" when it seems that I cannot be roused which were described as "blackouts" by the psychiatrist at Guy's. My lips and other extremities still turn blue at times and yet I am often told my skin looks yellow and my face swollen as if I had mumps. The running nose is a constant problem, especially in the throat which is often sore along with mouth ulcers and cold sores which follow any slight exposure, as does the diarrhoea though the difficulties in knowing when to pass water / waste and when finished are still there most of the time. The tremors can be

really bad and I know I am in trouble when the diaphragm becomes involved. I must stop whatever I am doing whenever I feel that beginning. Tinnitus is still a problem and swallowing is sometimes difficult. The "pins and needles" seems to be eased with the magnesium chelate supplements which have become difficult and expensive to obtain. I see that "image retention" as described by Guy's is also known as "Perseveration" known to be caused by damage to the frontal lobes - another OP action - and that experiments reported on pirimiphos methyl showed irreversible brain damage in rats. For some reason I often have embarrassing times when I simply do not recognise people I know well - even good

friends have visited my home, and I have had to hold conversation with them until I can extract clues as to who they are.

Once recognition is made then I can recall most things about them which is very strange.

Probably the most limiting problem is the increased reaction to even small quantities of solvents, fumes and perfumed products. Sometimes the reaction is dramatic with sweating, palpitations, tremors and difficulty in breathing. The only answer found to work so far is complete avoidance, which means that I rarely leave the house. This greatly restricts the whole family and what we are able to use and do compared to our life before the incident.

Actellic Dust was withdrawn after 2003 but I cannot understand why Actellic D is still approved as an undeclared food additive in stored cereals. I understand that the alkyl benzene in the formulation has been replaced by naphthalene.

I believe that Reldan 50 was taken off the market some years ago and replaced with the much weaker, Reldan 22, which I understand is also now restricted.

Solvesso 100 has also been declared as a harmful substance and I understand 1,1-trichloroethane has similar properties.

A list of the chemicals I have used follows and this was taken from a detailed list provided to all doctors as part of a little booklet I produced for the purpose because I have difficulty remembering things. Fortunately I kept very detailed records when I managed the farm and these details came from those and product labels but despite that the HSE's Pesticide Incidents Appraisal Panel members, who denied even the likelihood of poisoning twice, claimed that the detailed records were the result of "*an elephantine memory*." There is no plausible excuse for the doctors who denied poisoning.

The UK regulatory and monitoring system is a complete disgrace and is designed to hide cases of poisoning in order to avoid the liability that has been inexplicably transferred to the government by to the licensing and approvals process.

Chemicals in used in 1991

PRODUCT NAME

(DECLARED) ACTIVE INGREDIENT

Arotex	chlormaquat chloride
Actellic 'D' *	pirimiphos methyl
Advance	fluroxpyr + ioxymil + bromoxynil
Agricom D	2-4-D dimethylamine
Ambush 'C'	cypermethrin
Avenge	difenzoquat
CMPP	mecroprop
Dagger	methyl-isopropyl-0xo-imidazolin -toluate
Disect	cypermethrin
Draza (pellets)	methiocarb
Early Impact	flutriafol + carbendazin
Gamma-Col *	gamma-HCH
Gramoxone	paraquat
Hyspray	polyethoxylated tallow amine
Mifaslug pellets	metaldehyde
Phostoxin (pellets)	aluminium phosphide
Radar	propiconazole
Ringworm treatment	griseofulvin
Roundup	glyphosphate
Seloxone	mecroprop + clopyralid
Simazine 5001	Simazine
Talisman	chlorotoluron
Talon *	chlorpyrifos

* denotes chemicals that I know affect me adversely.

Since 1985 Actellic dust (pirimiphos methyl) was added to the barley to prevent mite damage.

I milled and fed the barley daily.

Analysis shows that the Actellic D active ingredient persists in water for years.

Manganese sulphate was added to the feed at times to aid fertility.

Chemicals from 1985 - 1991

Advance	fluroxpyr + ioxynil + bromoxynil
Arotex Extra	chlormaquat chloride
Broadshot	dicamba + 2-4-D
Dagger	imazamethabenz methyl
Draza	methiocarb

Early Impact	flutriafol + carbendazim
Gamma Col	gamma HCH
Grassland Weedkiller	2-4-D + MCPA + benazolin
Harrier	ioxynil+mecroprop+3,6,dichloropicolinic acid
Hoppit	quassia
Hyspray	polyethoxylated tallow amine
Mifaslug	metaldehyde
Phostoxin	aluminium sulphate
SBK Brushwood killer	2-4-D + 2-4-5-T
Seloxone	3,6,dichloropicolinic acid + mecroprop
Simazine 5001	simazine
Talisman	chlorotoluron
Talon	chlorpyrifos
Toppel	cypermethiin

Rat Poisons

Warfarin	warfarin
Racumin	coumatetraylyl
Neosorexa	difenacoum
Ratak	difenacoum
Slaymor	bromadiolone

Anthelmintics

Nilverm	tetramisoe
Nemicide	tetramisoe
Panacur	fenbendazole

Fly control

Flectron tags	cypernethrin
Disect spray	cypermethrin
Louse powder	gamma HCH
Tiguvon warble fly pour—on liquid	fenthion
Foot treatments	formaldehyde

Silage additives

Add F	formic acid
Liquid Kylage	sodium nitrate + calcium formate
Sylade & Sylade	2 sulphuric acid + fomalin

Dairy chemicals

Circaline	sodium hypochlorite
Diversol BX	chlorinated trisodium phosphate
Hypdchlorite	sodium hypochlorite
Sprayclene	phosphoric acid
Super Teat Dip	iodine + glycerine

From 1983-1985

Agricorn D	2-4-D + dimethylamine
Ambush C	cypermethrin
Battal	carbendazim
Clenecrop CMPP	mecroprop
Decis	deltamethrin
Dicurane	chlortoluron
Oxytril	bromoxynil + ionoxynil
Radar	propiconazole
Sportak Alfa	carbendazim+prochloraz
Starane	fluroxpyr

From 1979-1883

Benlate	benomyl
Boots (and Murphys) crop store spray	malathion ‘?’
Brittox	bromoxynil + ionoxynil + mecroprop
Cercobin	thiophanate methyl
Cornoxynil	dichlorprop + bromoxynil
Derosal	carbendazim
Dicurane	chlorotoluron
	Glass fibre for metal repairs + resins
Mvlone	ionoxynil + mecroprop
Sportak	prochloraz
Springclene	ionoxynil + bromoxynil + mecroprop + linuron
Terpal	Mepiquat chloride
Bardew	tridemorph
Bayleton	triademefon
Boots systemic insecticide	possibly dimethoate or demeton-s-methyl?
Derosal	carbendazim
Draza	methiocarb

Herbitox	benazalin + dicamba+dichlorprop
Nortron	ethofumesate
Roundup	glyphosphate

From 1977-1979

Actellic D	pirimiphos methyl
Ambush	permethrin
Arelon	isoproturon
Avenge	difenzoquat
Bavistan	carbendazim
Calixin	tridemorph
Comox MCPA25	MCPA
Cornox 290	dichlorprop+MCPA+3,6, dichloropicolinic acid
Gramoxone	paraquat
Iso-cornox 64	mecroprop
Ley Cornox	benazolin+MCPA + 2-4-DB
pp leatherjacket pellets	gamma HCH
Strikol BHC	gamma HCH
Tribunil	methabenzthiazuron
Tricornox	dicamba + benazolin + dichlorprop

Prior to 1970 unknown chemicals with the exception of DDT which I used before 1960.

Seed dressings throughout the period included organo-mercury

plus for 1980-1983 Milstem	ethirimol
for 1983-1986 Baytan	triadimenol + fuberidozole
and for 1986 onwards Ferrax	flutriafol +ethirimol + thiabendazole

Garden chemicals used in low quantities over 20 years or so before the poisoning

Copper fungicide	cubic carbonate
Derris Dust	rotenone
Greently killer	Malathion
Garden fungicide	thiram
ICI Ant Killer	pirimiphos methyl
ICI Slug Pellets	metaldehyde
Nimrod T	buprinate + triforine
Weed Killer	sodium chlorate
Pathclear	diquat + paraquat + simazine
Sybol	pirimiphos methyl

(As a toxicologist said "There are some very nasty chemicals on your shopping list")

Summary of later symptoms

Vision problems (Sensitivity to light, retained images, double vision, perception of colour, loss of vision)

Peripheral neuropathy (Numbness/sensation changes and 'Pins and needles' in hands and feet)

Difficulty in breathing

Erratic heart beat

Blueness of lips etc

Pain in left front of chest

Chemical sensitivity

Hot and cold sweats, especially at night

Voice problems at times

Forgetfulness (diagnosed cognitive and memory defects)

Cold feet and hands

Nervous twitching of arms and legs

Tinnitus

Mottled skin on hands

Sensation of itching skin

Rashes and sores on the skin that do not heal

Lack of stamina

"Blackouts"

Acid reflux and digestive disorders

Pain and restricted movement especially in arms

Recurrent cold sores & occasional severe headaches

Any contact with chemicals, even those previously tolerated with no problem at all, triggers similar symptoms to those experienced during and after the poisoning in January 1992.

EFFECTS ON THE LIFE OF MY FAMILY

The effects of my family have been enormous and not least the result of my poisoning and my wife's cancer but because we are no longer financially independent and the stress and expense of the battle with those who have sought to deny the link between pesticides and my illness has at times been unbearable for my wife, our children and their families, who have often witnessed the deception and attempts at character assassination first-hand.

As I am no longer able to work and because of the perversion of justice in both the civil action and the Benefits Agency claim my family is now dependent on the state and faces surveillance and intrusion into our private lives by officials who have proved themselves to be less than honest. Even our bank accounts are open to the state.

Post, phone calls, and Internet communications have been interfered with and all so-called rights, laws, and regulations are being freely ignored in order to protect industry.

The costs to us in our search for the truth, to have pesticide data checked by scientific analysis, and the poisoning diagnosis confirmed by blood analysis performed overseas has been considerable and the false information provided by the industry and their supporters, plus the dishonesty of lawyers and doctors, has cost us dear.

We have suffered threats from such officials, including accusations of libel simply for stating the facts, and they have done all in their power, including perverting justice, to make life difficult for us in order to protect themselves.

Travelling is extremely difficult and so I am virtually housebound, only leaving home to see doctors or when needed by family members, and even then driven by others because of the vision problems etc., which the hospital with the equipment to demonstrate the damage refused to confirm in writing.

I cannot walk far either and it is no longer possible to socialise, or even to enjoy family celebrations because of the effects of persistent perfumes (also now included in washing products and therefore persisting in clothing) – and this also restricts visitors to our home where we cover all seating with sheets that must be removed when guests leave in order to rid the house of the chemicals that permeate their clothes.

In efforts to reduce further intakes of triggering chemicals we try to eat organically which is expensive, and pesticides used in the adjoining fields then contaminate our garden crops.

Such is the chemical sensitivity, and the effects on cognitive processes that my wife has to deal with all of our finances and our children have to shop for me for gifts and cards for special occasions, and even then products must be aired, often for days before they can be handled without any ill-effects. Frequently letters must be wrapped in cling-film before they can be read and air-cleaning equipment with additional carbon filters are used regularly throughout or house, often day and night. Some food and clothing has had to be destroyed because of the inability to remove perfumes.

However because of our experiences we have been able to assist others to get through similar trauma with their sanity still intact and the only reason we are able to do that is found in the diligent collection of the evidence that supports what I have reported here.

In my considered opinion the chemical companies have an unhealthy hold over the government, the civil service, medicine, science and the legal system. It is a hold that is extremely difficult to break and that hold is endangering not only human health but also the health of the environment, including the oceans into which all these pollutants must flow.

If there is doubt that the pesticide industry is causing serious harm to human health and the environment then a comparison of the reports by Lord Zuckerman in the UK dated 1951, 1953 and 1955 should be made with those by the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution in 2005 and those of other scientists who have acted independently of the chemical companies and have reported the deadly effects.

Pesticides are poisoning thousands of people every year and they are being found in the remotest parts of the world in places where they have never been used in the history of the planet.

I suggest that this cannot be permitted to continue, as the damage will be permanent and devastating to all life.

We are the canaries in the mines. Disaster will follow if we are ignored and fall silent...