Pesticides Herbicides **Fungicides**

Are They All Bad?

Miller Chapter 13

1st generation- primarily a natural base 500 BC 1600's 1400's 1800's

Second Generation The DDT story

- ◆ Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane first formulated in 1874
- ◆ Paul Muller was awarded a Nobel Prize in 1948 for the discovery of the insecticidal properties of DDT
- ◆ DDT was banned in the U.S.

THE EFFECTS OF DDT	
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What replaced DDT?

- * **Organophosphates:** Malathion, Parathion, diazinon
- * These have a low to moderate persistence (1 to 3 weeks)
- * Are not biologically magnified
- They are more toxic to the farm workers

Some Chilling Facts.....

About 1lb of pesticides is used for each person in the world

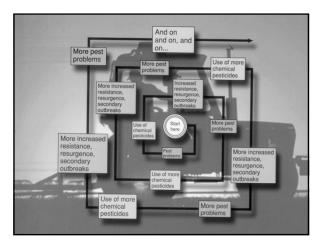
The Pro's & Con's

- ◆ Works faster
- ◆ 55% of food supply is lost to pests
- Saves people from insect transmitted diseases
 - Malaria
 - Bubonic plague
 - Typhus
 - Sleeping sickness

- ◆ Genetic Resistance by pests in 5 – 10 years
- Broad Spectrum- kills the good and the bad
- 2% of sprayed pesticide reaches targeted crop
- Poisons agricultural workers
- Poisons childrenincreases cancer risk

The Pesticide Treadmill

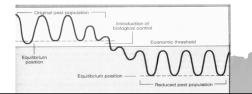
◆ Caused by the over-application of pesticides



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Integrated Pest Management

- Can reduce pesticide use by 50-90%
- Utilizes a





Herbicides and Frogs



- ◆ Roundup an herbicide produced by Monsanto is extremely toxic to amphibians, application of the pesticide causes a 86% decline in tadpoles
- ◆ A dramatic increase in hermaphroditic frogs correlates with the use of DDT and other chlorinated compounds, these compounds are found to be endocrine disrupters

Atrazinelovers.com

- Atrazine is an endocrine disruptor that causes abnormal reproductive development and immune suppression in wildlife
- Has been observed and published in fish, amphibians, and mammals
- The result is chemical castration (demasculinization) and feminization
- Exposure is associated with decreased sperm and reduced fertility in humans
- Exposure has also been linked to increased breast and ovarian cancer in women

GMO's

- ◆ Genetically modified food reduces the need for pesticides
- ◆ Remember Starlink Corn!





There has been a dramatic increase in the amount of agricultural land farmed organically.

Land that is farmed organically can produce just as high of a yield as land with chemical pesticides

Which one is more sustainable for the environment?????