

HOW POISON IS POISON?

Many people are concerned with the new insecticides and how poison they are to humans and other warm blooded animals. The following table gives the amounts of the actual material which will kill rats to which it is fed on a weight basis, and the amount in ounces which might be considered lethal to a 150 pound man.

Material	Acute Oral Toxicity to Rats LD-50		Estimated Lethal Dose for 150 lb. Man In Ounces
	Mg/Kg	Body Weight	
Aramite		4000	1.06
Chlordane		460	0.12
Chlorobenzilate		702	1.85
DDT		113	0.29
DDD (Rhothane)		330	0.87
Dieldrin		100	0.26
Endrin		10	0.026
Kelthane		730	1.93
Lead Arsenate		125	0.33
Lindane		125	0.33
Malathion		1000	2.64
Parathion		3	0.00792
Systox (Demeton)		7	0.018
Tedion		14700	38.81
Thiotep (Sulfa Tep)		8	0.0211
TEPP		2	0.00528
Thimet		3	0.00792
Sevin		540	1.425
Toxaphene		90	0.237

As can be seen, it takes far less than one ounce of most of these materials to kill a human, and some are so violent that a fatal dose would be difficult to measure because of its small amount.

The amounts stated above would be fatal when taken internally. It must be remembered that although it is uncommon for the materials to be breathed in or swallowed many such as Parathion and Thimet are nearly as effective when applied to the skin.

The effect of the organo-phosphates is cumulative. These materials are known as Cholinesterase inhibitors because they destroy this important material in the body. Since all these materials act in the same manner on the body, they should all be avoided if it is suspected that you have been poisoned by any one of them.

If you are using any of the Cholinesterase inhibitors, notify your family doctor to that effect and tell him you want atrophine pills to keep in your first aid kit.

Always use a full face respirator and protective clothing when applying these materials. If you begin to feel light headedness, tightness of the chest, nausea, or dizziness while using or immediately after using these materials, call the doctor and take the atrophine pills as recommended by the doctor.

If you do become poisoned by a cholinesterase inhibitor do not use any of the inhibiting materials until your doctor has tested your blood and found the cholinesterase level to be back to normal.

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