

Letter to the editor Winnipeg Sun, 19 July 2016

re <http://www.winnipegsun.com/2016/07/18/cosmetic-pesticide-ban-feedback-wanted>

Mr Hinton of The Weed Man is clearly making an illegal statement by inferring that registration of a pesticide means it's safe.

The Pest Management Registration Agency (PMRA) has unfortunately been very lax about fining people, businesses and companies making illegal statements, contrarily to the United States where the fines have reached a million dollars or more at times.

As far as I am concerned, we are well past 'educating' the industry, when they keep repeating the same misleading statements for decades!

A Toronto Environmental Alliance report "Breaking the Law Pesticide Advertising and Public Deception" (2002) already identified the problem when they found that 'approximately 75% of the pamphlets, brochures, letters and statements from industry contained messages that contravene current government regulations regarding the advertising of pest control products.'

Readers and staff may also find it useful to consult the following document 'Pesticide Issues in Saskatchewan: A Primer' by Paule Hjertaas. This article gives an overview of pesticide health effects and the pesticide situation in Saskatchewan and Canada. (June 2007) at <http://www.snapinfo.ca/info/presentations-and-publications>

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Paule Hjertaas, President and spokesperson for the Saskatchewan Network for Alternatives to Pesticides (SNAP Inc) at <http://www.snapinfo.ca/home> and <https://www.facebook.com/SaskatchewanNetworkForAlternativesToPesticides/>

References (link to from <http://www.snapinfo.ca/info/legislation> /Canada)

PCPA Act section 6(7) According to the PMRA, this clause makes it illegal to say a pest control product is safe (Toronto Environmental Alliance report "Breaking the Law Pesticide Advertising and Public Deception" (2002))

PCPA Regulations section 21 Advertising Prohibitions.