

**AN INVESTIGATION ON THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF
2, 4 - D CONTAMINATED SPRAYERS USED IN
COTTON FIELDS¹**

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SUMMARY

Problems are arised when using the 2, 4 - D contaminated sprayers for other purposes in cotton fields. Normal washing of sprayers does not completely and safely clean and decontaminate the equipment of 2, 4 - D. There have been reports of 100% losses on cotton fields in the North due to the use of 2, 4 - D contaminated sprayers.

In an attempt to find an acceptable method to clean such sprayers several experiments were performed in the green house and on the field. The results show two successfull methods :

- 1 - washing sprayer with a 1. 5/1000 alkaline detergent solution and then soaking in a 1/1000 suspension of carbon active in water for 24 hours and then washing with water.
- 2 - washing with a 1. 5/1000 alkaline detergent soaked sponge and rinsing with water.

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The latter method is the most practical and recommended way of 2, 4 - D decontamination for farmers.

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SUMMARY

Problems are raised when using the 2, 4 - D contaminated sprayers for other purposes in cotton fields. Normal washing of sprayers does not completely and satisfactorily clean and decontaminate the equipment of 2, 4 - D. There have been reports of 100% losses on cotton fields in the North due to the use of 2, 4 - D contaminated sprayers.

In an attempt to find an acceptable method to clean such sprayer several experiments were performed in the green house and on the field. The results show the following methods:

- 1 - washing sprayer with a 1.5% (1000 alkaline detergent solution and then rinsing in a 1% (1000 suspension of carbon active in water for 24 hours and then washing with water.
- 2 - washing with a 1.5% (1000 alkaline detergent soaked sponge and rinsing with water.

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