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## Healthy Ecosystem

*The Turf Pesticides and Cancer Risk Database integrates information on chemicals evaluated for carcinogenicity by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with 111 active ingredients found in turf and lawn care pesticides registered for use in New York State (NYS).*

# What's the Risk? The Turf Pesticides and Cancer Risk Database

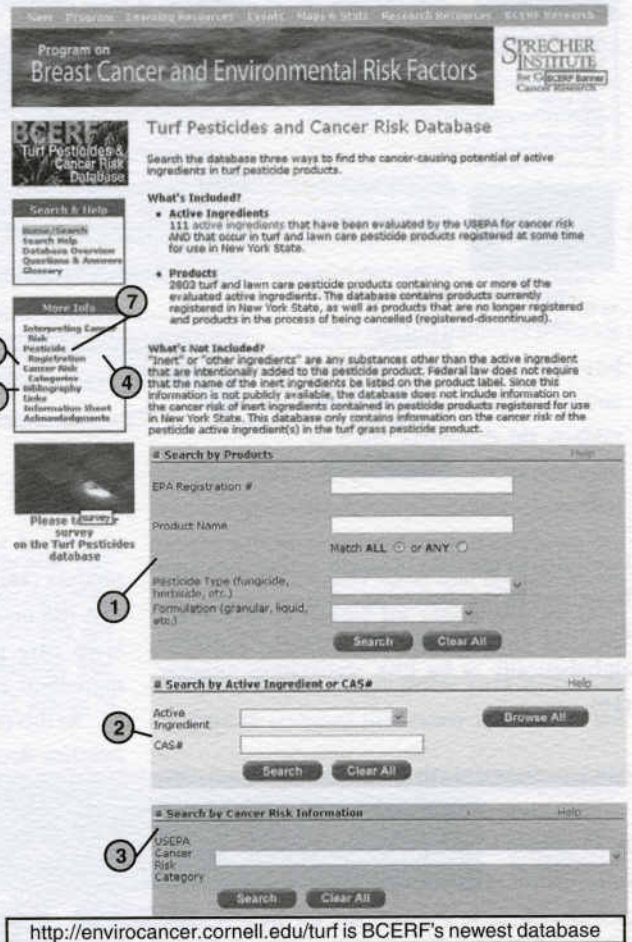
The BCERF program has recently launched an easy-to-access, searchable online database that provides cancer risk information for chemicals found in over 2,800 turf and lawn care pesticide products. The *Turf Pesticides and Cancer Risk Database* integrates information on chemicals evaluated for carcinogenicity by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with 111 active ingredients found in turf and lawn care pesticides registered for use in New York State (NYS).

**Search several ways:**

Users can search for information several ways: by product **(1)** or active ingredient **(2)**, or by cancer risk category **(3).**

**Find cancer risk information:**

Cancer risk information in the database is available in several forms. Users can look up or search by the EPA cancer risk category assigned to a particular chemical active ingredient, such as "Carcinogenic to Humans" or "Possible Human Carcinogen." Detailed descriptions are provided by clicking on the




http://envirocancer.cornell.edu/turf is BCERF's newest database

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CORNELL Turfgrass

*CORNELL UNIVERSITY TURFGRASS TIMES*
New York Greengrass Association
P.O. Box 612
Latham, NY 12110

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 30
Latham, NY 12110

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*Additional cancer and other health risk information is included in EPA risk management documents that are available for some but not all of the active ingredients in the database. The Bibliography provides a complete listing of the risk management documents currently available.*



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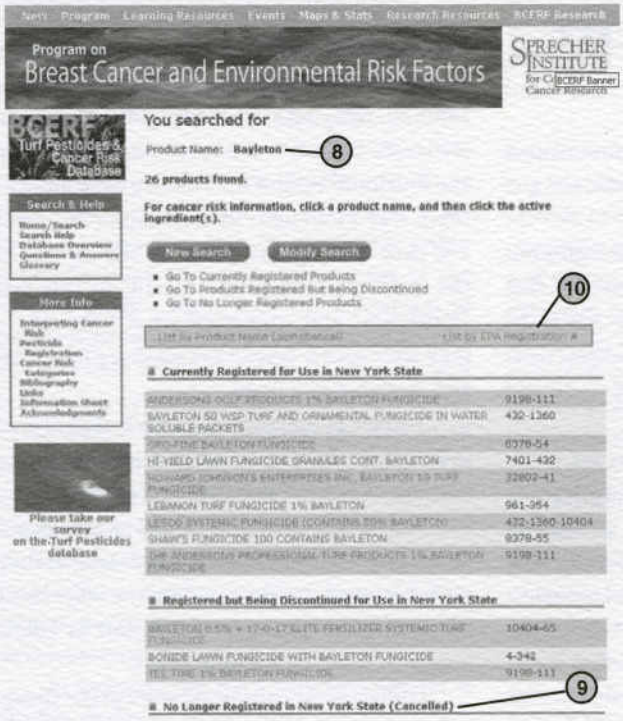


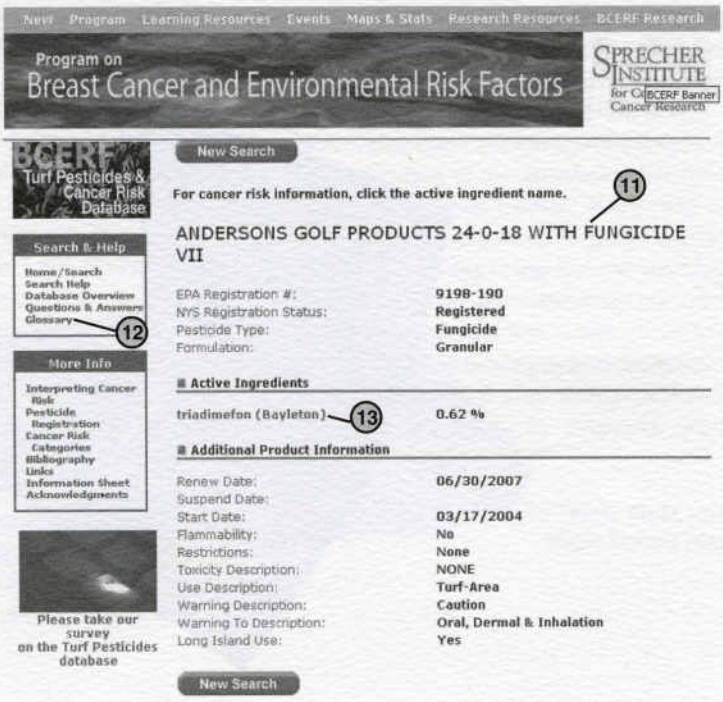

Cancer Risk Categories link in the More Info box on the left side of the page **(4)**.

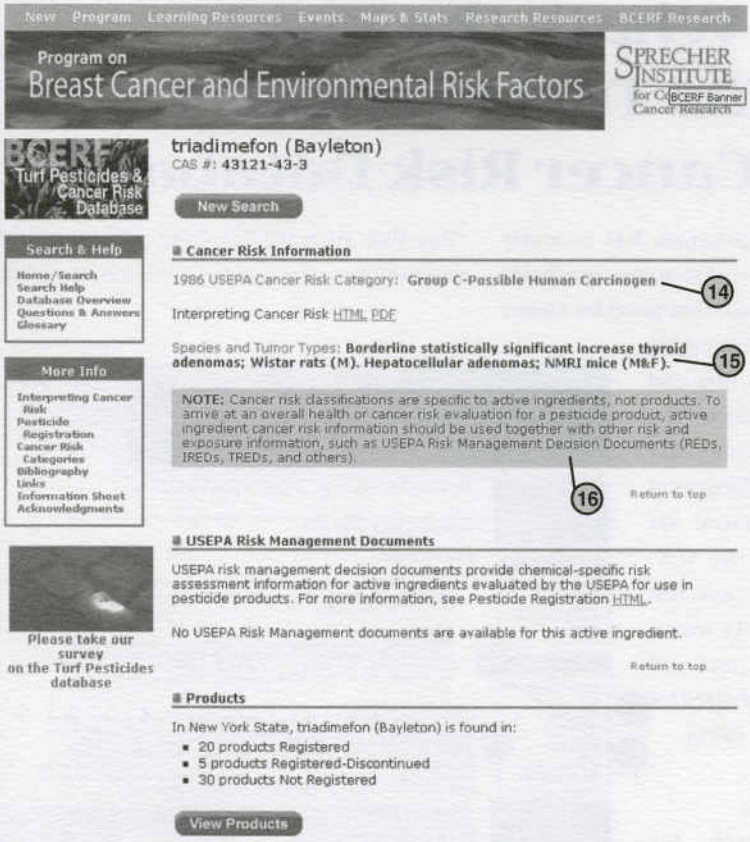
Additional cancer and other health risk information is included in EPA risk management documents that are available for some but not all of the active ingredients in the database. The Bibliography **(5)** provides a complete listing of the risk management documents currently available. These documents are also provided on the Results page for each active ingredient search where available. Risk management documents, known as Re-registration Eligibility Decisions, or RED documents, are documents provided by EPA as part of the pesticide re-registration process. For each chemical being re-registered for use in a pesticide product, the documents provide details on how the EPA evaluated the chemical and its associated human and environmental health risks and determined what levels and types of use would be acceptable.

Additional detailed information about pesticide registration and re-registration is available in the More Info box **(6)**. Information on interpreting cancer risk is also available to view or print **(7)**.

**Find pesticide products:**

Since the full names of pesticide products are often long and complicated, a search using one or more keywords **(8)** enables quick and easy access to corresponding products. Products in the database are limited to those that have ever been registered for turf and lawn use in NYS, and then only those that include active ingredients evaluated for cancer risk by EPA. Cancelled products **(9)** are included because BCERF focus groups with turf pesticide applicators revealed that many applicators are






information is available, including the cancer risk category **(14)** and the species of laboratory animal tested and tumor types found **(15)**. An important note on this page informs users that cancer risk classifications are specific to active ingredients, not products, and that a variety of risk information found in EPA risk management documents should be used to estimate the actual cancer risk associated with use of a particular pesticide product **(16)**. Links to Interpreting Cancer Risk, EPA risk management documents, and turf and lawn care products that include the active ingredient are included on this page.

At this time, the *Turf Pesticides and Cancer Risk Database* does not include all active ingredients and associated turf and lawn care products registered in New York State. Cancer risk has not been fully evaluated for many active ingredients. Cancer risk information is not available for all chemicals because federal pesticide registration laws have, until recently, only required full evaluations of cancer risk for chemicals that will be used in pesticides that also have food-crop uses. Federal legislation effective October 1, 2006, now requires that, over time, all chemicals proposed for pesticide registration or re-registration are evaluated for a variety of health risks, including cancer. The process of accumulating new cancer risk information on these chemicals will take many years. The *Turf Pesticides and Cancer Risk Database* will be updated as this information becomes available.

Heather Clark, Ph.D.

interested in the risks of products that they may have used in the distant past but no longer use. Product results can be sorted by name alphabetically or by EPA registration number **(10)**.

**Get product details:**

Clicking on a product takes you to the Product Details page **(11)** where product-specific information can be found. Terms on this page and elsewhere in the database are hyperlinked to their definitions in the Glossary **(12)**, which is always a click away on every page in the Search & Help box on the left side of the page. Clicking on a product's active ingredient **(13)** takes you to the Active Ingredient page for that particular chemical.

**Get active ingredient details:**

You can get to the Active Ingredient page from the Product Details page, the Browse All button or the Active Ingredient menu on the Home/Search page, or via the active ingredient list produced from a cancer risk category search. Once here, a variety of active-ingredient-specific

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