**Simazine pollution in Melbourne**

Simazine is the most commonly detected pesticide in Melbourne waterways and stormwater. It is also known as a “chemical castrator” that impacts on hormone function.

Simazine is a herbicide of the triazine class. It is used to control grasses and broad-leaved weeds. It acts by inhibiting photosynthesis. It is also used as a residual soil sterilant and is very closely related to Atrazine.

Despite its endocrine impacting properties, Simazine is also registered for use in swimming pools!

Levels as low as 0.1 parts per billion can damage water-based ecosystems. That’s one drop in 5000 barrels of water! Simazine also kills algae, which is the base of the foodchain.

**Recent Simazine detections**

Simazine has been detected during the last few years in Melbourne waterways & stormwater in these areas:

- Aberfeldie
- Altona
- Arundel
- Avondale Heights
- Beaconsfield
- Berwick
- Berwick Springs
- Broadmeadows
- Bulla
- Bulleen
- Bundoora
- Cabralea
- Caulfield
- Craigieburn
- Diamond Creek
- East Melbourne
- Endeavour Hills
- Essendon
- Fairfield
- Fitroy
- Footscray
- Glen Iris
- Glenroy
- Greenvale
- Keilor
- Leopold
- Lilydale
- Lynbrook
- Meadow Heights
- Mernda
- Mill Park
- Moonee Ponds
- Moorabbin
- Mount Waverley
- Nabiac
- Newport
- Point Cook
- Sunbury
- Stony Point
- Wallan
- Wantirna
- Williamstown

High numbers of detections in the YARRA RIVER upstream of Sugarloaf Reservoir.

Simazine can be sold over the counter from hardware and garden supply stores such as Bunnings, Mitre 10 and Masters Home Improvement. It can be used on paths, driveways, tennis courts and other areas. For months after application, Simazine can wash down drains into stormwater, particularly after rain.

Common trade names include: HORTICO PATH WEEDER, SEABLES PATH WEEDER, YATES ONCE A YEAR PATH WEEDER, GARD & GROW ONCE A YEAR PATH AND PATIO WEEDER, HEINIGER BANTOX DF DRIVEWAY AND PATH WEED KILLER.

BRUNNINGS READY TO USE PATHWEEDER.

Endocrine disruption.org | foe.org.au/pesticides-and-toxic-chemicals