

Organic food health time bomb? Potentially carcinogenic and confirmed irritant organic pesticide copper sulfate used to grow wine grapes, potatoes and tomatoes found in ‘almost entire French population and in particular children’

The Esteban study of Public Health France of the French population revealed the presence of copper in almost the entire French population, and in particular in children who consume organic products, and the use of copper has exploded in 2021.

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The exceptional climatic conditions of this year caused a rapid spread of mildew over a large part of the French vineyard, on potato crops in the North of France as well as on field tomato crops.

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Nevertheless, the specifications of organic farming prohibit all synthetic products, and copper-based solutions are today the one and only treatment product against mildew. We can therefore understand the motivations of the ministry of Rue de Varenne, who are anxious to preserve a sector struggling with such difficulties.

This is what explains why, in its Esteban study, conducted between April 2014 and March 2016 on a sample of 1104 children and 2503 adults, aged 6 to 74 years, Public Health France (SpF) notes that “more copper is found in consumers of organically grown foods, especially children.”

“Urinary copper concentrations are increased by 8% in those consuming more than 4 times a week vegetables from organic farming compared to those never or rarely consuming them,” reports SpF.

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However, for a long time, the toxicity of copper-based solutions, such as the Bordeaux mixture, was the subject of a taboo, the organic lobby having succeeded in eclipsing any debate on this subject.

[Editor’s note: This article was originally published in French and has been translated and edited for clarity.]

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