

Viewpoint: Manufacturing misinformation — How the Environmental Working Group spreads false facts about pesticide dangers

Ventura County farmers farm food, the Environmental Working Group farms clicks.

Unfortunately, the Ventura County Star has elevated misinformation about the important role of pesticide regulation in Ventura County and the extraordinary efforts undertaken by the County Ag Commissioner, farmers, and farmworkers to keep our community safe.

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[As The Star's Feb. 6 article noted](#), “Ventura County growers applied more than 32 million pounds of pesticides to fields over six years” yet it failed to note that most of the mass applied is non-toxic.

The cited applications include horticultural oils, minerals, and organic pesticides which make up the bulk of the mass and are considered non-toxic to humans. No wonder EWG had to span six years of data to inflate rates for clicks.

[**This is an excerpt. Read the original post here.**](#)

The article leans on conjecture, making claims riddled with “may,” “could” and “potentially” but doesn’t demonstrate any evidence that these claims will or have happened. A data-driven approach depends on having good data and understanding its implications. Farmers and the Department of Pesticide Regulation have worked together with scientists to study the actual impact on workers and the public.

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