Worried About Pesticide Residue? We’ll Give You A Bunch of Reasons to Stop

Pesticide product labels provide critical information about how to safely and legally handle and use the product. And, unlike other labels, pesticide labels are legally enforceable.

Each year the U.S. Department of Agriculture produces the Pesticide Data Program (PDP) report. The PDP report consistently shows that more than 99 percent of sampled products have residues below EPA's established tolerances.

Detection does not equal harm. Modern detection tools are pretty exact and can detect even the tiniest measurements, like parts per million and parts per billion. One part per million = only 10 bricks of the Empire State Building.

The book Harry Potter and The Order of the Phoenix contains a total of 257,045 words. If you had a stack of 3,890 of those books, one word in one of those books = 1 part per billion.

A child could eat 5,291 servings of blueberries in one day without any harm from pesticides even if the berries had the highest pesticide residue recorded by USDA. This serving is approximately 860 pounds, equivalent to the weight of a horse!

A man could eat 25,339 servings of carrots in one day without any harm from pesticides effect even if they had the highest pesticide residue recorded for carrots by USDA. This serving is approximately 12,669 pounds, equivalent to the weight of an elephant!

It is important to remember to wash all produce before eating it, regardless of how it is grown, to not only rinse off any lingering pesticide residue but to wash away germs from the grocery store or farm.

The most important thing is to eat a diet filled with nutrient-rich fruits and vegetables. Your health depends on it!