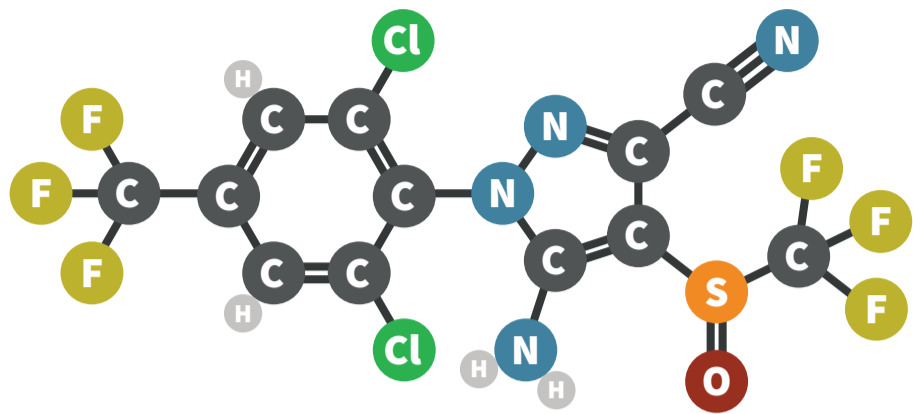


# FIPRONIL AND EGG CONTAMINATION



### WHAT IS FIPRONIL?

Fipronil is an insecticide commonly used against fleas and roaches, which can also be used against ants, cockroaches, ticks, termites, and more. It kills insects by disrupting their central nervous system. It is used in various insect-control products for both agricultural and domestic use.

### WHY IS FIPRONIL TURNING UP IN EGGS?

It appears that Fipronil was mixed in with a red mite treatment, Dega-16, in order to enhance its effectiveness. Red mites are common pests on poultry farms. Fipronil is not authorised to be used around or on food-producing animals. How the Dega-16 product became contaminated is unclear and a criminal investigation is underway.

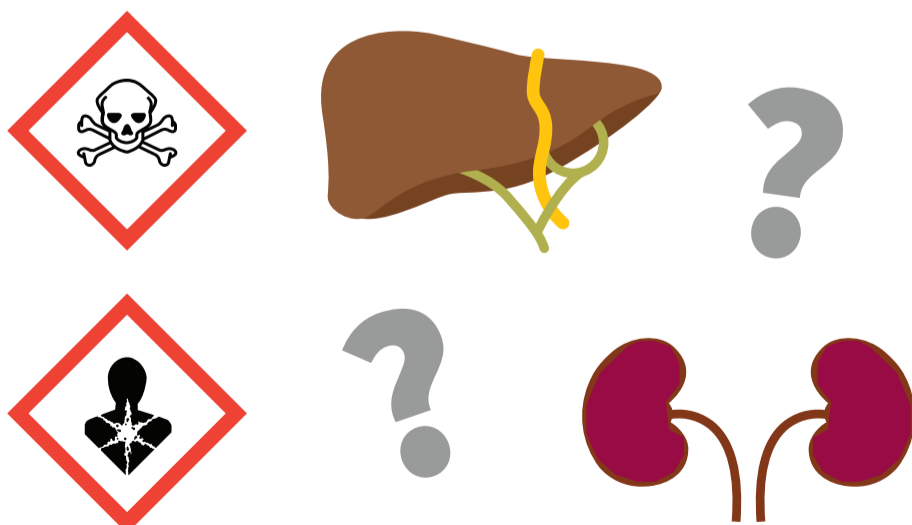


The contaminated eggs originated from Dutch farms. They have since been reported in 15 other countries and Hong Kong.



  
**180 FARMS**  
TEMPORARILY  
**SHUT DOWN**  
IN THE NETHERLANDS

  
**MILLIONS**  
OF EGGS WITHDRAWN  
**FROM SALE**



### SHOULD I BE WORRIED ABOUT FIPRONIL?

Ingestion of large amounts of fipronil can lead to kidney, liver, and thyroid damage. However, the amounts present in the contaminated eggs are much lower, and at these levels it is unlikely to be a risk to public health. In addition to this, the ongoing investigation has established that any affected products have already been withdrawn from sale in the countries affected.

**IN SHORT: LOW LEVEL EXPOSURE TO FIPRONIL IS UNLIKELY TO BE A HEALTH RISK. AFFECTED EGGS HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN FROM SALE.**

