

Chris Taggart

From: bjhoy@localnet.com
Sent: Thursday, December 12, 2019 10:35 AM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners Office
Cc: bjhoy@localnet.com
Subject: Question?

Dear Ravalli County Board of Health,

There is an article about the high levels of heavy metals in the meconium of newborn babies in Butte in the Missoulian today. I really liked the reply of Dr. Katie Hailer when the results of their study was questioned. She said, "Our work was published in a peer-reviewed journal. Do others have information that authoritative?" I wish I had said that every time some of the members of the RCBOH questioned our studies, which were published in peer-reviewed journals. I know that the MDFWP did not have any information as authoritative and still doesn't. They did no studies and published no peer-reviewed studies on the birth defects. Until the SD WTD study that was published in Nature, no one did a study of any kind on birth defects on wild grazing animals except those done by us here in Ravalli County. The person who responded to any RCBOH inquiry about the birth defects on wildlife, over the last 15 plus years, just gave his or her opinion. Opinions do not count as scientific evidence anywhere except Montana that I know of.

We have published three studies on the birth defects on wildlife, one that included domestic animals and one that was also about the health issues and birth defects on humans, mostly newborns. All three studies were published in peer-reviewed journals. A new study published this year in Nature concerning birth defects on wildlife, based on our first two studies, received world wide attention. When will the newborns in Montana and in Ravalli County get the attention they deserve?

I would like a reply to that question. Also, have you ever heard back from Governor Bullock concerning your letter about the effects of Imidacloprid on newborns and adults and what he might be able to do about the excessive use of Imidacloprid?

In case you didn't see the statistics from the CDC and from Montana on the effects of toxin exposures, including pesticides, to newborns in my last letter to the editor published in the Missoulian (a while ago) and the Ravalli Republic (last Sunday), I am putting them below.

For 23 years we have been reporting a yearly high prevalence of birth defects, cancer and death, on wildlife, domestic animals, especially newborns and most importantly, on human babies. One of every two pregnancies results in death to the fetus or a less than healthy child.

Of nearly 74 million U.S. children born each year, approximately one of three suffers a serious disorder.

Over 30 kinds of pesticides are found in babies' umbilical cords, along with mercury, flame retardants, dioxin and PCB's. The costs of care associated with toxin linked childhood illnesses in Montana alone are well over \$400,000,000 a year. Between 5 and 6 BILLION pounds of pesticides are now used on Earth every year.

Exposure to brain damaging pesticides during development is resulting in doubling the number of retarded adults, and it is cutting the number of gifted by more than half. Dr. Ian Donald stated, "The first 38 weeks of human life are medically more fraught with danger than the next 38 years in a human's lifespan."

Exposure to certain pesticides has been shown to cause many wild animals (including invertebrates and vertebrates) to decline in population. Humans won't survive without the other animals.

I find these statistics to be extremely concerning. Do you?

Sincerely,
Judy Hoy
Stevensville, MT 59870