

Long-term effects of common pesticides on aquatic species

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New research indicates that commonly-used insecticide mixtures continue to impact aquatic invertebrate species over multiple weeks, even when the chemicals are no longer detectable in water.

Through experiments meant to generally reflect [runoff](#) from a multiple-homeowner watershed, investigators found that pesticide mixtures had [negative effects](#) on the abundance of certain snails, water fleas, and [crustaceans](#).

"The effects we observed indicate that many species were affected at a sublethal level," said Dr. Simone Hasenbein, lead author of the *Environmental Toxicology & Chemistry* study.

"Thus, populations exposed to low concentrations of pesticides could be even more sensitive to other abiotic or biotic factors such as invasive species, or changes in salinity or temperature leading to a magnification of multi-stressor situations."

More information: Simone Hasenbein et al. A long-term assessment of pesticide mixture effects on aquatic invertebrate communities, *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry* (2015). [DOI: 10.1002/etc.3187](https://doi.org/10.1002/etc.3187)

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