Impact of Agrochemicals on Public Health in Brazil: A Comprehensive Assessment.

## Maria Celeste Cardeal de Oliveira

Instituto Adolfo Lutz, São Paulo, Brasil (maria.oliveira@ial.sp.gov.br)

Abstract: The intensified proliferation of agrochemical use in recent years presents profound and multifaceted risks to human health and environmental integrity. Brazil, a leading global consumer of pesticides, faces a particularly urgent challenge due to the escalating application of these substances. This assessment analyzes the deleterious effects of pesticide exposure on human populations and ecosystems. The adverse health consequences extend beyond occupationally exposed agricultural workers to include vulnerable local communities near cultivation areas and the general consumer population via contaminated agricultural products. Compelling evidence demonstrates that the indiscriminate and escalating use of pesticides directly contributes to adverse health outcomes, necessitating robust public policy interventions. Such policies must prioritize stringent enforcement of existing legislation and actively promote sustainable agricultural practices to safeguard the long-term well-being of the Brazilian populace and its invaluable natural resources.

Keywords: Brazil, agricultural products, pesticides, human health, environmental quality