



Our Water, Our World Program Criteria and Process for Developing the Product List

Base product list on most recent BIRC directory of least-toxic products. Revise the product list in accordance with the following criteria. Products must meet all the applicable criteria.

- Products should be registered for use in California, list or provide active ingredient (AIs), and be available to consumers
- Products should be less-toxic alternatives to products that contain an AI with identified or threatened water quality impacts (e.g., diazinon), as defined by water quality protection agencies
- Acceptable to add less-toxic alternatives to products that do not contain an AI with identified or threatened water quality impacts
- Efficacy is generally assumed for commercially sold products, except if researchers raise significant questions. Home remedies are not acceptable to add.
- Acceptable to add pesticide products that match AIs with those on BIRC list
- Acceptable to add products with an AI that might be of some water quality concern if they are: 1) of less concern (e.g., imidacloprid) than products that contain an AI with identified or threatened water quality impacts (e.g., diazinon), and 2) the only effective, convenient alternative to the products that contain an AI with identified or threatened water quality impacts
- Products should reduce exposure to user. Baits and traps are assumed acceptable to add unless efficacy is significantly questioned (e.g., mosquito traps / electric bug zappers) or they have demonstrated secondary poisoning problems.
- Acceptable to add fertilizers that are taken up slowly by the plants. These fertilizers are either: 1) made only from animal or plant materials, or minerals or 2) encapsulated synthetic slow-release fertilizers. Not acceptable to add fertilizers that are packaged with pesticides.
- Acceptable to add less-toxic or non-toxic product types (e.g., mulch, tree/bird netting) that are not direct alternatives to pesticides, if the product types help prevent pest problems. In that case, only the generic product type should be listed once (e.g., "Mulch") and not multiple brand names.