The Household Products Database

The Household Products Database is a consumer’s guide that provides easy-to-understand information on the potential health effects of more than 2,000 ingredients contained in more than 14,000 common household products used inside and around the home. Information is also available for some commercial/institutional grade products available to the public.

The Household Products Database allows scientists and consumers to find out about ingredients in brand-name products. It is designed to help answer questions like these:

- What chemicals are contained in specific brands and in what percentage?
- Who manufactures a specific brand? How can the manufacturer be contacted?
- What are the potential health effects of the chemical ingredients in a specific brand?
- What other information is available about such chemicals in the databases of the National Library of Medicine?
The Household Products Database links consumer brands to health effects from Material Data Safety Sheets (MSDS) provided by manufacturers, which are designed to provide workers with proper procedures for handling or working with a particular substance. It also provides warning information from product labels. Users can browse a product category, such as Pesticides or Personal Care, by alphabetical listing or by brand name. Products can also be searched by manufacturer.

Information on chemicals can be obtained by browsing an alphabetical listing of product ingredients. The Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) or Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for a product can be searched for health effects. For more detailed information, users can launch a search for a product or ingredient from the product’s page in TOXNET (toxnet.nlm.nih.gov), a collection of databases that are typically used by toxicologists and health professionals.

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