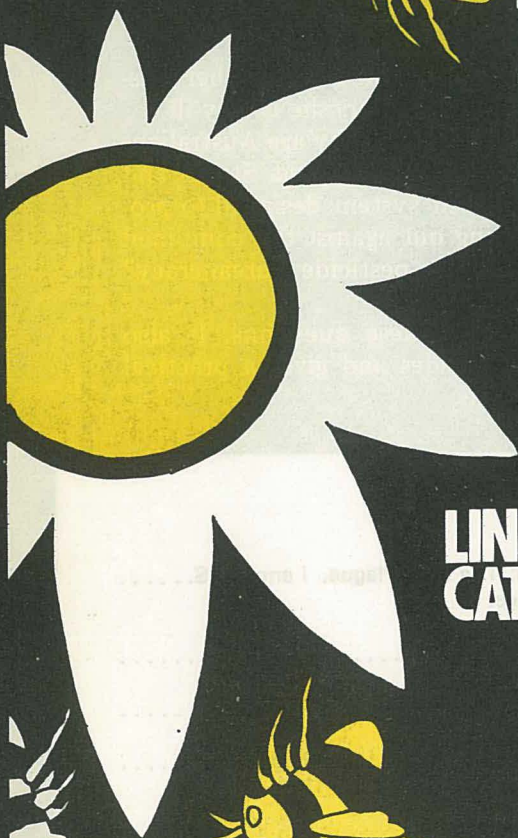


# PESTICIDES: THE NEW PLAGUE

the victims..  
the politics..  
the alternatives

LINDA CAWCUTT  
CATHERINE WATSON



# PESTICIDES: THE NEW PLAGUE

'The whole health bureaucracy has been derelict in its duty to inform the public of the health risks associated with agricultural chemicals. . . they will hold back information from the public suggesting that we would not be able to accept that we have been exposed to pesticides that cause cancer in laboratory animals.'

*Peter Rawlinson*

'There is a lot of good evidence that the immune system is very susceptible to pesticides. . . I think the effects are far more widespread and affect far more people than we have acknowledged. Perhaps we have simply over-estimated the ability of our bodies to handle poisons.'

*Dr. Colin Little*

A 25-year-old Melbourne man in good health has his house sprayed. Four months later he is very ill.

A Shepparton woman has colitis that flares up every spring, the time of intensive spraying.

An apparently healthy woman marries and shifts to her husband's huge peach orchard. For the next 10 years she is very ill. . .

The list of similar cases seems never-ending. Why are Australians daily exposed to chemicals banned in the United States and Europe? What went wrong with a health system designed to protect us? What are the costs of speaking out against the combined might of the chemical industry and the pesticide bureaucracy? Who are the victims?

*Pesticides: the New Plague* answers these questions. It also examines the dangers of various pesticides and gives a practical guide for those who wish to avoid them.

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