Pyraclostrobin in Drinking Water

Pyraclostrobin is a contaminant that has not been found in waters that could be used as drinking water sources in Minnesota. The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) developed a health-based guidance value for pyraclostrobin in drinking water and, based on this value, does not expect levels of pyraclostrobin in drinking water to harm Minnesotans.

What is pyraclostrobin?
Pyraclostrobin is a pesticide that is used to prevent the growth of damaging fungi on food crops, turf, and ornamental plants. In recent years, it has also been used by some to promote plant growth.

How much pyraclostrobin is in Minnesota drinking water?
Monitoring for pyraclostrobin in Minnesota is conducted using monitoring wells and not drinking water wells.

Has pyraclostrobin been found in other waters in Minnesota?
Since 2009, MDH and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) have searched for pyraclostrobin in Minnesota waters. MDA tested for pyraclostrobin in surface water and groundwater. MDH and MDA jointly studied community water supply systems for pyraclostrobin and other pesticides. No pyraclostrobin was detected in these studies.

What is the MDH guidance value?
The MDH developed a guidance value of 100 parts per billion (ppb) for pyraclostrobin in drinking water.¹

How can I reduce my exposure?
To reduce your exposure to any pesticide, rinse your fresh produce before eating it. Buying produce from sources that do not use pesticides may also reduce your exposure. If you use pyraclostrobin, read product labels carefully, and follow application instructions and use restrictions.

How does pyraclostrobin get into the environment?
Pyraclostrobin can be carried to surface water in stormwater runoff or when sprayed or aerially applied.

At a Glance

Pyraclostrobin is...
• a pesticide.

Pyraclostrobin can enter your body from...
• eating fruits and vegetables that contain residues.

Your exposure to pyraclostrobin can be reduced by....
• washing produce before eating it.

Pyraclostrobin in drinking water is safe if...
The level is lower than the MDH guidance value of 100 ppb.

The Contaminants of Emerging Concern (CEC) Program...
Evaluates health risks from contaminants in drinking water.

References