

A Perspective on the RMP

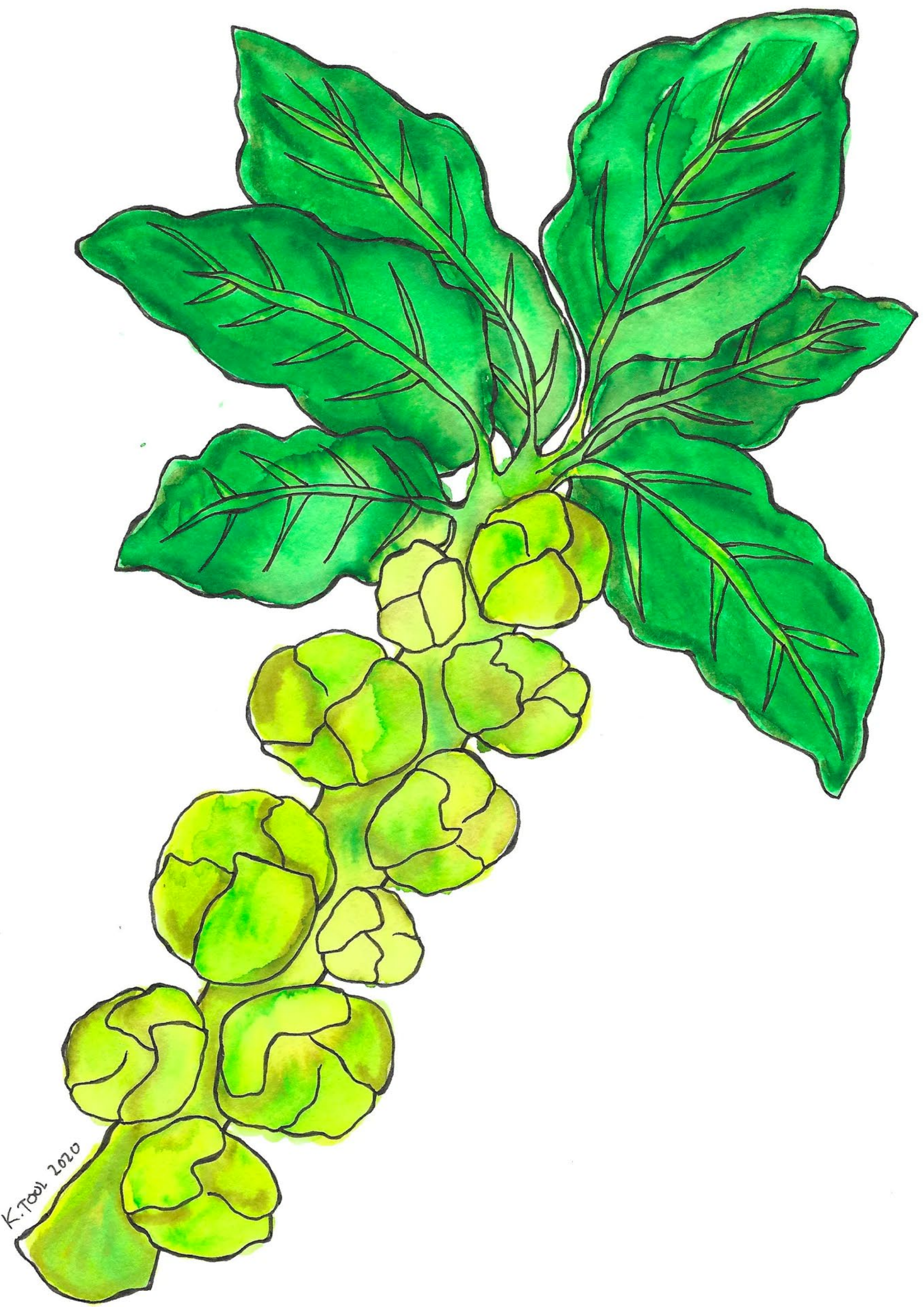
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DDT comes home

BY ELEANOR B. COOK

What it is

DDT is the atomic bomb of insecticides—short for dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane, a chemical sold in diluted form, and available as a liquid or powder preparation or in aerosol bombs. DDT is still in an experimental stage as far as civilian use is concerned. New facts about it are being released almost daily. It is the deadliest of 3000 compounds tested on mosquitoes by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. No other product retains its lethal power on sprayed surfaces for so long a time. BUT it must be remembered that DDT is a poison—a contact poison as well as a stomach or internal poison. So it cannot be used as casually as the many fly sprays housewives know. A little goes a long way in whatever form DDT is used. With common sense precautions it can have many uses in disposing of household pests.

How it works

The time required to kill bugs after contact varies, but most take at least an hour or two to die and some, such as roaches, may take several days. The quick knock-down obtained from aerosol bombs or kerosene oil sprays is NOT from the DDT, which kills slowly, but from pyrethrum contained in most aerosol bombs or from the kerosene. They knock the insect down, then the DDT prevents it from rising again!

How to use

The aerosol bombs should be directed into the air, not against any surface. The opposite is true of residual sprays which have most lasting effect when sprayed against surfaces. DDT kills insects by contact—it does not repel them. Some oil sprays spot or stain, so experiment a bit before using.

How long will the effect last?

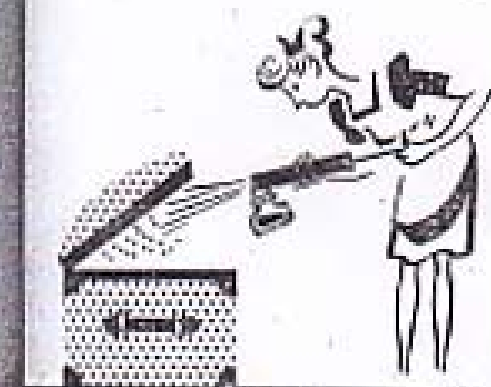
That depends mainly upon the concentration of DDT. Read labels to be sure the products possess:

Powders . . . 10% DDT Sprays . . . 5% DDT
Aerosol bombs 1-3% DDT with added pyrethrum

CAUTIONS: Do not use DDT on food; on surfaces where food is prepared; on clothing or bedding which touches the skin. Do not use powder on surfaces to which children have access. Do not use oil sprays near flame or while smoking, and be sure to wash your hands after use



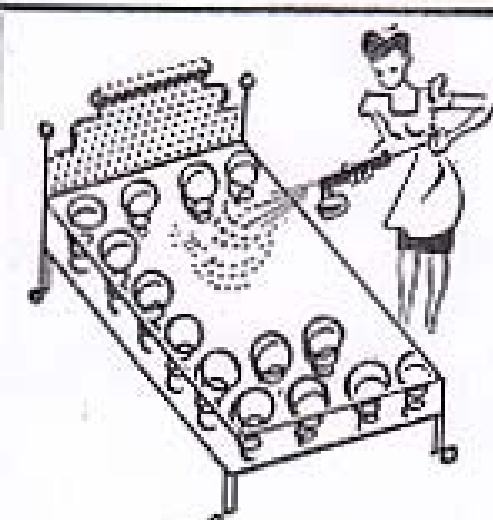
Out-of-doors insects in sheltered spots or porches yield to the aerosol bomb on very calm days. For more lasting effect spray surfaces that insects light upon



Moths—Use a 5% DDT oil spray on all inside surfaces of closets or trunks *after* removing clothing. For use on drapes or upholstery be sure spray does not stain



Flies and mosquitoes—An aerosol bomb is one way of ridding your bedroom of them. Open the valve and point the out-putting mist in various directions about 15 sec.



Bedbugs—a 5% DDT oil spray—about 3 oz. per double bed—kills them in no time. Spray bed frame, springs, mattress and pillows but do it hours before using

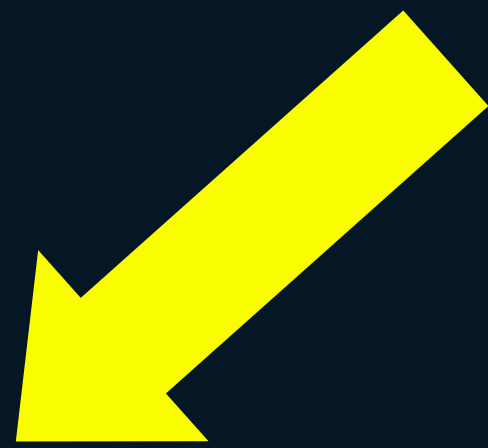


Bees and ticks are considered by a 10% DDT powder—about 1/2 oz. per sq. ft. Don't use oil spray and use *neither* on cats. Powder around baseboards, under rugs helps



Cockroaches and ants—a 10% DDT powder gets them in a week if dusted around their haunts. As an extra measure use a 5% DDT oil spray under shelves, sinks, etc.

McCall's Magazine
January
1946





Russ Flegal



Bob Risebrough

Research Vessel
David Johnston















A color photograph of three men standing on the deck of a boat. The man on the left is wearing a bright yellow raincoat. The man in the middle is wearing a dark denim jacket with a white fur collar and is holding a white mug with a yellow design. The man on the right is wearing a blue quilted jacket. They are all looking towards the camera. The background shows a blue sky with white clouds and the rigging of the boat.

**John
Conomos**

**Dave
Peterson**

**Fred
Nichols**

c. 1974

Research Vessel *Polaris*









“Modification of an Estuary” Nichols *et al.* 1986



c. 1974





Collecting Mussels at Bodega Head c.1994







