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## ANNOUNCEMENT

### Overseas Development Natural Resources Institute (Pesticide Impact Section)

The Pesticide Impact Section has compiled a bibliographic computer database of books and scientific articles about the environmental side-effects of pesticides (including herbicides and fungicides) in the tropics.

This database, called ENVIRON, has been designed to provide a rapid and comprehensive information service freely to scientists, farmers and agricultural administrators living in developing countries and working for international development organizations.

Gathered within ENVIRON is information which was previously widely scattered throughout the scientific literature. The wise use of such information will ensure that the inefficient and environmentally damaging use of pesticides is minimized.

Topics covered in ENVIRON include:

- \* pesticide toxicity to non-targets
- \* pesticide persistence and residues
- \* environmental fate of pesticides
- \* ecological impact of pesticides on non-target organisms:
  - evidence of mortalities
  - population changes
  - sublethal effects (e.g. animal behaviour)

ENVIRON can handle enquiries about the effect of pesticides on non-target organisms (including soils), after first specifying the pesticide (or pesticides), the target pest(s) or non-target organism(s), or a combination of these. The output consists of a list of references, each of which is followed by an indication of the contents of the paper and in some cases a relevant abstract. Depending on the request we also attempt to synthesise the information available to aid the enquirer. There are no plans to provide an on-line facility for external users at present.

*Further information can be obtained from:* Pesticide Impact Section, ODNRI, College House, Wrights Lane, LONDON W8 5SJ.

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## ERRATUM

*Journal of Tropical Ecology* (1988) 4:185-198

**Dormancy, germination and seedling growth of two Kalaharian perennials of the genus *Harpagophytum* (Pedaliaceae)**

W. H. O. Ernst, T. Tietema, E. M. Veenendaal and R. Masene

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