Pesticides Residue on Brazilian Tomatoes, Food Safety and President Bolsonaro

Introduction

Brazil has a very fertile soil for planting tomatoes. However, farmers use pesticides in excess to guarantee an abundant harvest and put aside the generated. Harms the government demonstrates support for launching flexibilization laws for pesticide approval.

Therefore, this research analyzes the high level of pesticide releases in the current Bolsonaro government and its perniciousness to human life.

Objectives

- Analyze one of the most important vegetables in daily consumption in Brazil (tomatoes);
- Identify the most important legislative changes in the promotion of pesticides;
- Detect the amount of pesticides throughout Bolsonaro’s mandate;
- Analyze diseases caused by the consumption of food with pesticides.

Material and Methods

- Tomatoes planted in Brazil;
- Pesticides released in Brazil;
- Data collected by ANVISA, and the role this regulatory agency fulfills in inspecting medicines, pesticides, cosmetics, other related to health products in Brazil;
- Scientific articles with the study of pesticides in food, focusing on tomatoes;
- Brazilian pesticide legislation;
- Laws analyzed by of the Chamber of Deputies.

Findings

- Approval of law No. 6299/2002, changing the pesticide inspection agency to CNTFito;
- Release of 624 pesticides since Jair Bolsonaro took office;
- Tomatoes are among the leaders of overuse of pesticides in Brazil;
- About 30% of the ingredients of the formation of pesticides released this year (2020) in Brazil are prohibited in Europe;
- According to the World Health Organization (WHO), 20 thousand deaths are registered per year due to the consumption of pesticides, and Brazil has been the country with the highest consumption of these products since 2008.

Results

- Law No. 6299/02 seeks to change the name from “pesticide” to “phytosanitary products”, which softens its real content. It also changes in the current inspection bodies (Anvisa and Ibama) to CNTFito;
- Due to great usage of pesticides, Europe has imposed restrictions on Brazilian tomatoes Europe has one of the largest number of consuming countries when compared to other continents;
- A study commissioned by the Ministry of Health and carried out by the Butantã Institute, coordinated by Mônica Lopes Ferreira, proved that there is no safe dose of pesticides.

References