



## Newsletter about Pesticides

N°8 – May 2022

### Jurisdictional News



tpmartins/[Flickr](#)

#### **USA : More than 1.150 plaintiffs in Paraquat multidistrict litigation**

The judge in charge of the [Paraquat multidistrict litigation \(MDL\)](#) ruled on February 14, 2022 that the hundreds of farm workers and others who claim that they have developed Parkinson's disease as a result of occupational exposure to paraquat could [proceed](#) with most of their claims against Syngenta.

Indeed, the Court denied Syngenta and Chevron's motions to dismiss the claims for strict product liability, negligence, breach of implied warranty and violation of several state consumer protection laws. Nonetheless, the Court found that the

plaintiff's public nuisance count was a 'simple repackaging' of their product liability claims.

The plaintiffs' lawyers welcomed the decision as a crucial step for the thousands of farmers and farm workers exposed to paraquat and now suffering from an incurable debilitating disease.

The US District Court for the Southern District of Illinois had agreed to gather [numerous lawsuits](#) brought by Paraquat users diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in an multidistrict litigation (MDL) against the pesticide's producer, Syngenta, and its distributor, Chevron. These actions highlight the propensity of Paraquat to cause Parkinson's disease.

As this litigation involves complex scientific and regulatory issues, centralisation is intended to avoid dilation of research, inconsistent pre-trial decisions and save parties, lawyers and judiciary resources.

As of May 16, 2022, the paraquat class action was composed of over [1.150 plaintiffs](#). On May 4, 2022, a group of six cases for the first paraquat Parkinson's bellwether trial were identified. The plan is to select 16 examples from the Paraquat cases that have been filed. The first bellwether trial is expected to take place in November, 2022.

*If you have made it this far, can you make one more small effort to allow us to continue this work of investigation and information to help the victims of pesticides?*

*Justice Pesticides needs your help.*

[I donate to Justice Pesticides](#)

[Back to Justice Pesticides Website](#)