

**THE POSSIBILITY OF ACCUMULATION OF AGROCHEMICALS
IN DOWNSTREAM RESERVOIRS**

by

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The use of agrochemicals mainly, pesticides and fertilizer compounds has increased tremendously during the past thirty years and remain high for economic reasons. The benefits of agrochemicals to mankind have been the control of insect vectors of disease and increased yields of many crops. The use will continue to increase with the evolution of agriculture in developing countries especially with the intensification of agricultural practices in newer irrigation projects. However, the drastic changes in the agroecosystems of developing countries, brought about through "Green Revolution" unfortunately have drawn little attention of relevant authorities.

Because aquatic species bioaccumulate pesticides more readily than terrestrial organisms, other has been much concern about pesticides in agricultural runoff. Agrochemicals also have the potential for biological impact throughout the environment because of continuous exchange of chemicals among soils, living organisms, water and air. At present, little relevant information is available for use in making accurate predictions of the impact of agrochemical amounts in runoff and at some point downstream. Important factors to be considered in future use of agrochemicals include, the better understanding of agroecosystems, more selective and rapidly degradable chemicals and ability to predict their fate in the environment.