

Pesticides

BY: MAHESH RAJA

May 01, UK (SUN) — Srila Prabhupada did not want the use of pesticides. When one compares the result of having used pesticides with the ill effect it brings forth, it is best to give the pests some of the food they are destined, thereby gaining healthy harvests. Please read the following:

Srila Prabhupada's purport on Srimad-Bhagavatam 7.14.9 - Ideal Family Life:

"One who is in Krsna consciousness understands that there is no difference between the animals and the innocent children in one's home. Even in ordinary life, it is our practical experience that a household dog or cat is regarded on the same level as one's children, without any envy. Like children, the unintelligent animals are also sons of the Supreme Personality of Godhead, and therefore a Krsna conscious person, even though a householder, should not discriminate between children and poor animals.

Unfortunately, modern society has devised many means for killing animals in different forms of life. For example, in the agricultural fields there may be many mice, flies and other creatures that disturb production, and sometimes they are killed by pesticides. In this verse, however, such killing is forbidden.

Every living entity should be nourished by the food given by the Supreme Personality of Godhead. Human society should not consider itself the only enjoyer of all the properties of God; rather, men should understand that all the other animals also have a claim to God's property. In this verse even the snake is mentioned, indicating that a householder should not be envious even of a snake. If everyone is fully satisfied by eating food that is a gift from the Lord, why should there be envy between one living being and another? In modern days people are very much inclined toward communistic ideas of society, but we do not think that there can be any better communistic idea than that which is explained in this verse of Srimad-Bhagavatam. Even in the communistic countries the poor animals are killed without consideration, although they also should have the right to take their allotted food with which to live."

Now, judge what is actually happening to those who insist on using pesticides:

"Punjab Reaps a Poisoned Harvest"