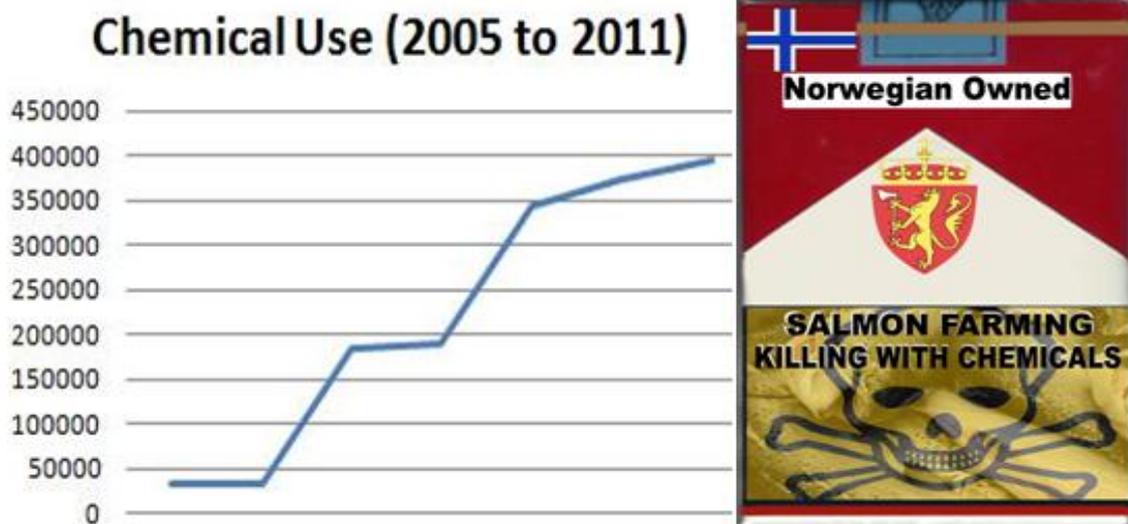


**FishyLeaks, 11 September 2012**

## **Scottish Salmon's Toxic Toilets Named & Shamed!**

- Twelve-Fold Increase in Chemical Use Since 2005

The use of toxic chemicals on Scottish salmon farms more than doubled between 2008 and 2011 and has increased twelve-fold since 2005. Read more via [FishyLeaks](#) and exclusively in today's Guardian newspaper via "[Scottish fish farmers use record amounts of parasite pesticides](#)" and "[Chemicals to control salmon parasites](#)".



According to data obtained via Freedom of Information from the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), the 'Filthy Five' users of toxic chemicals were [Marine Harvest](#), Scottish Salmon Company (Lighthouse Caledonia), Scottish Sea Farms (Leroy/SalMar), Hjaltland Seafarms (Grieg) and [Loch Duart](#). The 'Dirty Dozen' sites using Azamethiphos, Cypermethrin, Deltamethrin, Emamectin benzoate and Teflubenzuron are named for the first time – including Special Areas of Conservation such as Loch Roag and Loch Laxford.

Chemical resistance means that a cocktail of five toxic pesticides are now used to kill Scotland's plague of '[super-lice](#)'. Almost twice every day for the last four years (2008-2011), chemicals known to be lethal to lobsters and other shellfish were used on salmon farms in Scotland. Chemicals were used 2,756 times including Emamectin (1,028); Deltamethrin (914); Azamethiphos (487); Cypermethrin (315) and Teflubenzuron (12).

Read in full via '[Dossier of Chemical Use on Scottish Salmon Farms 2008-2011](#)'

The news comes in the wake of a Veterinary Residues Committee [report](#) detailing contamination in Scottish farmed salmon with the toxic pesticide Emamectin. In June, officers from Marine Scotland were charged with carrying out a follow up investigation. Data obtained via FOI [reveals](#) that since 2005 Marine Harvest, Scottish Sea Farms, Skelda Salmon and the Scottish Salmon Company have all been involved in contamination cases.

"The Scottish Government has sanctioned the use of Scotland's coastal waters as a dumping ground for the chemical wastes of Norwegian and Polish corporations," said Don Staniford of the Global Alliance Against Industrial Aquaculture (GAAIA). "Scotland's toxic salmon

farms are now infested with resistant ‘super-lice’ and contaminated with chemicals. The drugs don’t work – just say no to chemically embalmed Scottish farmed salmon.”



GAAIA today filed a [complaint](#) with the OSPAR Commission regarding the UK’s breach of [PARCOM Recommendation 94/6](#) on Best Environmental Practice for the Reduction of Inputs of Potentially Toxic Chemicals from Aquaculture Use. GAAIA has also written to the [European Commission](#) regarding a potential breach of the [EU Habitats Directive](#).

The alarming rise in chemical use from 2008 to 2011 is five times more than the percentage increase in salmon farming production: whilst [Scottish farmed salmon production](#) steadily increased by 22% between 2008 and 2011 (up from 128,606 tonnes to 157,385 tonnes) the use of toxic chemicals increased by a shocking 110% - more than doubling from 188076g to 394631g). Using data back to 2005 the increase in the use of chemicals is a staggering 1094% - a twelve-fold increase up from 33060g in 2005 to 394631g in 2011. That’s over fifty times the percentage increase in Scottish farmed salmon production (which rose 21%)!

GAAIA also wrote to the [First Minister of Scotland](#), [SEPA](#) and [Scottish Natural Heritage](#) asking how much further the Scottish Government intends increasing the use of toxic chemicals. In May 2012, following a £80 investment by Norwegian-owned Marine Harvest, the First Minister of Scotland [reiterated](#) his pledge to increase Scottish salmon farming production by 50% on 2009 levels to 210,000 tonnes by 2020.

“The alarming increase in the use of toxic chemicals on Scottish salmon farms is surely a breach of the UK’s international commitments under the OSPAR Commission and the EU Habitats Directive,” continued Staniford. “The First Minister of Scotland has lost his mind in a chemical fog. How else can you explain his warped view that the ‘[essence of Scotland](#)’ is allowing foreign multinationals like Norwegian-owned Marine Harvest to use Scottish waters as a toxic toilet?”

New scientific research presented at the Sea Lice 2012 conference in Norway in May revealed that Teflubenzuron kills lobsters (read in full [online here](#)). Scientific research has also shown that [Azamethiphos](#) and [Cypermethrin](#) are lethal to lobsters and [Emamectin benzoate](#) can induce premature moulting in lobsters. [Deltamethrin](#) is also lethal to both shrimp and lobsters.

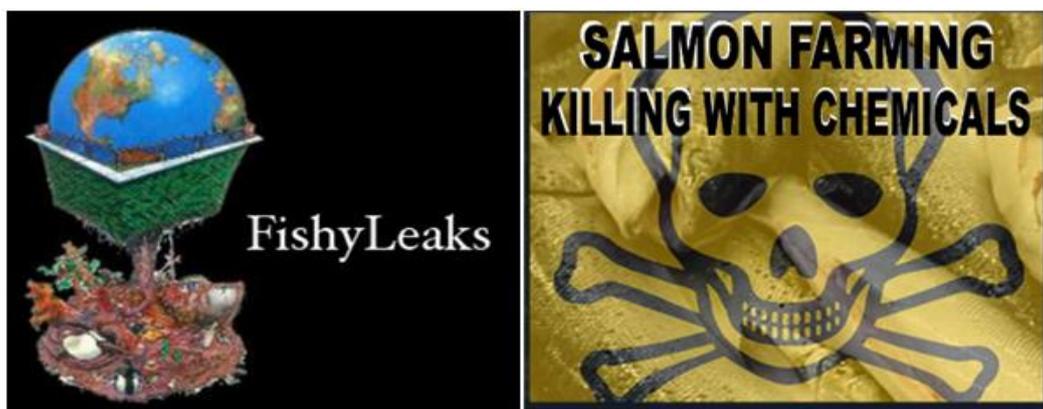
So widespread is the use of toxic chemicals that [SEPA](#) have detected contamination of under salmon farms in lochs across Scotland. The Scottish Natural Heritage has also [expressed concern](#) that chemical use could spread to the nearby [Firth of Lorn Special Area of Conservation](#), protected under EU law because of the rarity of its reefs.



In July, [FishyLeaks](#) published data on [infectious diseases and mortalities](#). The Scottish Government have now delayed the launch of 'Scotland's Aquaculture Database' which was scheduled for launch on 30 July.

However, thanks to [FishyLeaks](#) the public can now see for the first time which companies are discharging potent poisons into Scotland's pristine waters.

Read all the data online via '[FishyLeaks](#)' including: '[Dossier of Chemical Use on Scottish Salmon Farms 2008-2011](#)'



For more information read the '[Media Backgrounder: Chemical Culture in Scotland](#)'

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