

## MH3C Executive Summary

The objective of the program is to prevent and mitigate adverse human health effects related to exposure to pesticides. Specific goals of the program are as follows:

- To collate and create a resource centre and inventory of reports of programs, activities, strategies and promotional material relating to pesticides and human health in NSW, for use by Government, health centres and the community
- To facilitate the development of health monitoring programs of at-risk groups and communities in NSW associated with industries of high pesticide usage
- To undertake research programs aimed at identifying health risks
- To recommend appropriate strategies to reduce the risk of adverse human health effects associated with agricultural pesticide usage
- To identify training needs of rural health professionals in the area of pesticides and recommend and/or develop programs
- To provide a cholinesterase screening service to people in North West NSW, and to advise and assist in the provision of a screening service to other areas of NSW
- To prepare a report on the current activities, programs and issues in the area of pesticides and human health

Programs and activities for 1995 include the following:

- a study of pesticide exposure in sheep handlers
- provision of an information service to the community and organisations (ongoing)
- provision of on-site pesticide testing for company groups (at request)
- participation in the National Registration Authority Interim Community Consultative Committee
- development of educational material for occupational groups (eg aboriginal cotton chippers/ itinerant workers)
- production of the "Pesticides & Health" newsletter (ongoing)