CHAPTER 6: THE TOXICITY OF PESTICIDES

• Poisoning (illness or affects a bodily system)
• Injury (i.e. burning, discoloration, itching)
• Allergic effects (see Precautionary Statements)

Contact (site) vs. Systemic (system)
Acute (immediate) vs. Chronic/Delayed
Reversible vs. Irreversible
Measuring toxicity

• Measure **acute** toxicity:

**Lethal Dose 50**

Amount of a toxicant required to **kill 50%** of a test population of animals under a set of standard conditions (mg/kg)

→ The lower the number the more toxic ←

• No standard measure for **chronic** toxicity
Signal Words

- Express the LD50 of the Pesticide
Signal Words

• **CAUTION** - low toxicity, >500mg/kg LD50
• **WARNING** - moderate toxicity, 50-500mg/kg LD50
• **DANGER** - skin/eye corrosive
• **DANGER-POISON** - trace to 50mg/kg LD50