Poster #34

Connecting Ecological Data with Epidemiological Maps: Speed Dialing Instructions

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Epidemiologist and toxicologists have just begun working on ways to bring their disciplines more closely together. Environmentalists, including a large group of specialized earth scientists, also need to coordinate their data.

Looking over the past 20 years both at the government and the private research structure built to regulate toxic chemicals in the United States provides examples of how to streamline some programs and improve access to mutually useful scientific data. This Poster area is designed to provide a map, or "information accelerator" useful to a larger audience.

This survey takes the research on aldrin and dieldrin as a test sample. It highlights some of the most useful scientific research models. There is substantial information on soil and air monitoring data now on the web. In other areas, such as information on the volume of chemicals produced each year in the United States, there has been a declined and there are now substantial gaps. It also point out gaps where little work has been done, or where work could be improved with better access to related data, for example stream sediment data and bioconcentration and contamination in plankton, mussels, and fish.

Many human health and animal studies can be improved with better access to environmental exposure data, and the collection and measurement of adipose tissues, breast milk and liver and brain tissue samples, embryo or transplacenta fetus exposure, and blood analysis.