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Agent Blue

Agent Blue is one of the "rainbow herbicides" that is known for its use by the [United States](#) during the [Vietnam War](#). It was sprayed on rice paddies and other crops in an attempt to deprive the Vietnamese of valuable crops. Agent Blue is a mixture of two [arsenic](#)-containing compounds, sodium cacodylate and [cacodylic acid](#). Although it has a similar-sounding name, Agent Blue is chemically unrelated to the more infamous [Agent Orange](#) and other herbicides used during the war.

As [rice](#) is incredibly durable, and difficult to destroy with conventional explosives, and does not burn, the weapon of choice was herbicides. Agent Blue affects plants by causing them to dry out. As rice is highly dependent on water to live, using Agent Blue on these paddies can destroy an entire field and leave it unsuitable for further planting.

Today, large quantities of the chemical named Agent Blue are still used on lawns and crops throughout the USA. Taken from ZNet Ecology[1]: