

Message

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**From:** Hopkins, Yvette [Hopkins.Yvette@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 3/4/2021 5:47:04 PM  
**To:** Mastrota, Nicholas [Mastrota.Nicholas@epa.gov]; Miller, Robert [Miller.Robert@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: US Today Article Critical of EPA on Flea Collars Related to Pet Deaths

I hope this time someone can blow the lid off this travesty.

Still nearly perfect scores on Amazon! I had to dig to get to a negative review on the product when I looked several years ago and the most helpful positive review from purportedly from a vet who used it on his 3 dogs...

I spoke to my vet about it back then and she said she'd never heard of or had a patient with an adverse reaction for a Seresto collar, just the FDA isoxazoline, e.g., Bravecto, ones with the black box warning.

I told her I had photos of disfigured and deceased cats and dogs (perhaps not all Serest though)

## Seresto Flea and Tick Collar for Dogs, 8- Month Flea and Tick Collar for Large Dogs Over 18 Pounds

Visit the Seresto Store



43,333 ratings



#1 Best Seller in Dog Flea Collars

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**From:** Mastrota, Nicholas <Mastrota.Nicholas@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 4, 2021 12:28 PM  
**To:** Hopkins, Yvette <Hopkins.Yvette@epa.gov>; Miller, Robert <Miller.Robert@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: US Today Article Critical of EPA on Flea Collars Related to Pet Deaths

The Canine Review is now investigating this. One of the things they are doing is asking veterinarians to contact them to share their experience with adverse side effects from Seresto collars. That is such an obvious thing to do if you want to figure out what is going on, but as far as I know EPA has never done anything like that.

<https://thecaninereview.com/2021/03/02/elanco-disputes-usa-today-report-alleging-its-seresto-collars-killed-hundreds-of-dogs-and-cats-tcr-to-dig-further/>

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**From:** Hopkins, Yvette <Hopkins.Yvette@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 04, 2021 12:20 PM  
**To:** Mastrota, Nicholas <Mastrota.Nicholas@epa.gov>; Miller, Robert <Miller.Robert@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: US Today Article Critical of EPA on Flea Collars Related to Pet Deaths

Please don't forward this.

See below, we know the answer to which direction OPP is taking...

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**From:** Garcia, Beth <[garcia.beth@epa.gov](mailto:garcia.beth@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 4, 2021 12:06 PM

**To:** Wire, Cindy <[Wire.Cindy@epa.gov](mailto:Wire.Cindy@epa.gov)>; Buster, Pamela <[Buster.Pamela@epa.gov](mailto:Buster.Pamela@epa.gov)>; Hopkins, Yvette <[Hopkins.Yvette@epa.gov](mailto:Hopkins.Yvette@epa.gov)>; O'Neill, Sandra <[O'Neill.Sandra@epa.gov](mailto:O'Neill.Sandra@epa.gov)>; Walsh, Linsey <[Walsh.Linsey@epa.gov](mailto:Walsh.Linsey@epa.gov)>; Picone, Kaitlin <[Picone.Kaitlin@epa.gov](mailto:Picone.Kaitlin@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: US Today Article Critical of EPA on Flea Collars Related to Pet Deaths

Cindy:

Actually I heard it from another region who asked and shared it with me.

For future, I'll clarify up front where inquiries should be directed and let everyone know so we're on the same page. 😊

Sincerely,

Beth

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**From:** Wire, Cindy <[Wire.Cindy@epa.gov](mailto:Wire.Cindy@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 04, 2021 11:59 AM

**To:** Garcia, Beth <[garcia.beth@epa.gov](mailto:garcia.beth@epa.gov)>; Buster, Pamela <[Buster.Pamela@epa.gov](mailto:Buster.Pamela@epa.gov)>; Hopkins, Yvette <[Hopkins.Yvette@epa.gov](mailto:Hopkins.Yvette@epa.gov)>; O'Neill, Sandra <[O'Neill.Sandra@epa.gov](mailto:O'Neill.Sandra@epa.gov)>; Walsh, Linsey <[Walsh.Linsey@epa.gov](mailto:Walsh.Linsey@epa.gov)>; Picone, Kaitlin <[Picone.Kaitlin@epa.gov](mailto:Picone.Kaitlin@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: US Today Article Critical of EPA on Flea Collars Related to Pet Deaths

Got it – thanks for letting us know as we are not looped into those directions.

Cindy Wire

PREP Coordinator & Region, State, Tribal Liaison

US EPA Office of Chemical Safety & Pollution Prevention

San Francisco, CA

Phone: 415-947-4242

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**From:** Garcia, Beth <[garcia.beth@epa.gov](mailto:garcia.beth@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 4, 2021 8:32 AM

**To:** Wire, Cindy <[Wire.Cindy@epa.gov](mailto:Wire.Cindy@epa.gov)>; Buster, Pamela <[Buster.Pamela@epa.gov](mailto:Buster.Pamela@epa.gov)>; Hopkins, Yvette <[Hopkins.Yvette@epa.gov](mailto:Hopkins.Yvette@epa.gov)>; O'Neill, Sandra <[O'Neill.Sandra@epa.gov](mailto:O'Neill.Sandra@epa.gov)>; Walsh, Linsey <[Walsh.Linsey@epa.gov](mailto:Walsh.Linsey@epa.gov)>; Picone, Kaitlin <[Picone.Kaitlin@epa.gov](mailto:Picone.Kaitlin@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: US Today Article Critical of EPA on Flea Collars Related to Pet Deaths

Cindy:

Thanks for raising this. I can ask re: calls, but the official OCSPP comms response for regions is to direct the questions to the Regional Public Affairs Directors and press can be directed to [press@epa.gov](mailto:press@epa.gov) and concerned citizens should go [pesticidequestions@epa.gov](mailto:pesticidequestions@epa.gov).

Beth

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**From:** Wire, Cindy <[Wire.Cindy@epa.gov](mailto:Wire.Cindy@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 04, 2021 11:25 AM

**To:** Garcia, Beth <[garcia.beth@epa.gov](mailto:garcia.beth@epa.gov)>; Buster, Pamela <[Buster.Pamela@epa.gov](mailto:Buster.Pamela@epa.gov)>; Hopkins, Yvette

<Hopkins.Yvette@epa.gov>; O'Neill, Sandra <O'Neill.Sandra@epa.gov>; Walsh, Linsey <Walsh.Linsey@epa.gov>; Picone, Kaitlin <Picone.Kaitlin@epa.gov>

**Subject:** RE: US Today Article Critical of EPA on Flea Collars Related to Pet Deaths

Beth,

Region 9 is starting to get calls and are directing public inquiries to Mary Rust in OPP, and press inquiries to Greg Siedschlag in OPS. Did you receive updated guidance on where calls should be routed? I am thinking we want to be consistent with our directions. Mary manages the pesticidequestions mailbox, however sending an inquirer to a generic mailbox seems to communicate "take a number."

Just my two cents.

Cindy Wire  
PREP Coordinator & Region, State, Tribal Liaison  
US EPA Office of Chemical Safety & Pollution Prevention  
San Francisco, CA  
Phone: 415-947-4242

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**From:** Garcia, Beth <garcia.beth@epa.gov>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 4, 2021 8:07 AM

**To:** Baumgartner, Donald <baumgartner.donald@epa.gov>; Buster, Pamela <Buster.Pamela@epa.gov>; Hopkins, Yvette <Hopkins.Yvette@epa.gov>; O'Neill, Sandra <O'Neill.Sandra@epa.gov>; Walsh, Linsey <Walsh.Linsey@epa.gov>; Wire, Cindy <Wire.Cindy@epa.gov>

**Cc:** Ryan, Emily <ryan.emily@epa.gov>; Corbett, Richard <Corbett.Richard@epa.gov>; Glynn, Tara <Glynn.Tara@epa.gov>; Hoernemann, Courtenay <Hoernemann.Courtenay@epa.gov>; Huff, Blake <Huff.Blake@epa.gov>; Khan, Sidrah <khan.sidrah@epa.gov>; Koethe, Robert <Koethe.Robert@epa.gov>; Lee, Bill <Lee.Bill@epa.gov>; Livingston, Pat <Livingston.Patricia@epa.gov>; Martin, Kevin <Martin.Kevin@epa.gov>; Merritt, Alex <Merritt.Alex@epa.gov>; Olson, Bethany <olson.bethany@epa.gov>; Plewe, Bethany <Plewe.Bethany@epa.gov>; Pluta, Alexander <pluta.alexander@epa.gov>; Szylvian, Andrea M. <Szylvian.Andrea@epa.gov>; Weiler, Gregory <weiler.gregory@epa.gov>; Wilcoxon, Katy <Wilcoxon.Katy@epa.gov>; Yeley, Megan <Yeley.Megan@epa.gov>; Anderson, Marcia <Anderson.Marcia@epa.gov>; Beard, Phillip <Beard.Phillip@epa.gov>; Brogdon, Ralph <Brogdon.Ralph@epa.gov>; Calero, Norman <Calero.Norman@epa.gov>; Gregory, Lynne <Gregory.Lynne@epa.gov>; Hawley, Sarah <hawley.sarah@epa.gov>; Helder, Dirk <Helder.Dirk@epa.gov>; Leshner, Mark <Leshner.Mark@epa.gov>; McPherson, Kenneth <McPherson.Kenneth@epa.gov>; Raguza, Holly <Raguza.Holly@epa.gov>; Satter, Suzanne <satter.suzanne@epa.gov>; Sorto, Evelyn <sorto.evelyn@epa.gov>; Tomczak, Kimberly <Tomczak.Kimberly@epa.gov>; Bauer, Jeremy <Bauer.Jeremy@epa.gov>; Bingham, Kimberly <Bingham.Kimberly@epa.gov>; Dominy, Randy <Dominy.Randy@epa.gov>; Gorman, John <Gorman.John@epa.gov>; Moore, Audrey <Moore.Audrey@epa.gov>; Rodriguez, Nancy <Rodriguez.Nancy@epa.gov>; Wilson, Clyde <Wilson.Clyde@epa.gov>; Wood, MelanieL <Wood.MelanieL@epa.gov>

**Subject:** RE: US Today Article Critical of EPA on Flea Collars Related to Pet Deaths

PS. In addition to notifying your Public Affairs Director if you get any questions, press can be directed to [press@epa.gov](mailto:press@epa.gov) and concerned citizens should go [pesticidequestions@epa.gov](mailto:pesticidequestions@epa.gov).

Sincerely,  
Beth

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**From:** Garcia, Beth

**Sent:** Thursday, March 04, 2021 10:54 AM

**To:** Baumgartner, Donald <baumgartner.donald@epa.gov>; Buster, Pamela <Buster.Pamela@epa.gov>; Hopkins, Yvette <Hopkins.Yvette@epa.gov>; O'Neill, Sandra <O'Neill.Sandra@epa.gov>; Walsh, Linsey <Walsh.Linsey@epa.gov>; Wire, Cindy <Wire.Cindy@epa.gov>

**Cc:** Ryan, Emily <[ryan.emily@epa.gov](mailto:ryan.emily@epa.gov)>; Corbett, Richard <[Corbett.Richard@epa.gov](mailto:Corbett.Richard@epa.gov)>; Glynn, Tara <[Glynn.Tara@epa.gov](mailto:Glynn.Tara@epa.gov)>; Hoernemann, Courtenay <[hoernemann.courtenay@epa.gov](mailto:hoernemann.courtenay@epa.gov)>; Huff, Blake <[Huff.Blake@epa.gov](mailto:Huff.Blake@epa.gov)>; Khan, Sidrah <[khan.sidrah@epa.gov](mailto:khan.sidrah@epa.gov)>; Koethe, Robert <[Koethe.Robert@epa.gov](mailto:Koethe.Robert@epa.gov)>; Lee, Bill <[Lee.Bill@epa.gov](mailto:Lee.Bill@epa.gov)>; Livingston, Pat <[Livingston.Patricia@epa.gov](mailto:Livingston.Patricia@epa.gov)>; Martin, Kevin <[Martin.Kevin@epa.gov](mailto:Martin.Kevin@epa.gov)>; Merritt, Alex <[Merritt.Alex@epa.gov](mailto:Merritt.Alex@epa.gov)>; Olson, Bethany <[olson.bethany@epa.gov](mailto:olson.bethany@epa.gov)>; Plewe, Bethany <[Plewe.Bethany@epa.gov](mailto:Plewe.Bethany@epa.gov)>; Pluta, Alexander <[pluta.alexander@epa.gov](mailto:pluta.alexander@epa.gov)>; Szylvian, Andrea M. <[Szylvian.Andrea@epa.gov](mailto:Szylvian.Andrea@epa.gov)>; Weiler, Gregory <[weiler.gregory@epa.gov](mailto:weiler.gregory@epa.gov)>; Wilcoxon, Katy <[Wilcoxon.Katy@epa.gov](mailto:Wilcoxon.Katy@epa.gov)>; Yeley, Megan <[Yeley.Megan@epa.gov](mailto:Yeley.Megan@epa.gov)>; Anderson, Marcia <[Anderson.Marcia@epa.gov](mailto:Anderson.Marcia@epa.gov)>; Beard, Phillip <[Beard.Phillip@epa.gov](mailto:Beard.Phillip@epa.gov)>; Brogdon, Ralph <[Brogdon.Ralph@epa.gov](mailto:Brogdon.Ralph@epa.gov)>; Calero, Norman <[Calero.Norman@epa.gov](mailto:Calero.Norman@epa.gov)>; Gregory, Lynne <[Gregory.Lynne@epa.gov](mailto:Gregory.Lynne@epa.gov)>; Hawley, Sarah <[hawley.sarah@epa.gov](mailto:hawley.sarah@epa.gov)>; Helder, Dirk <[Helder.Dirk@epa.gov](mailto:Helder.Dirk@epa.gov)>; Leshner, Mark <[Leshner.Mark@epa.gov](mailto:Leshner.Mark@epa.gov)>; McPherson, Kenneth <[McPherson.Kenneth@epa.gov](mailto:McPherson.Kenneth@epa.gov)>; Raguza, Holly <[Raguza.Holly@epa.gov](mailto:Raguza.Holly@epa.gov)>; Satter, Suzanne <[satter.suzanne@epa.gov](mailto:satter.suzanne@epa.gov)>; Sorto, Evelyn <[sorto.evelyn@epa.gov](mailto:sorto.evelyn@epa.gov)>; Tomczak, Kimberly <[Tomczak.Kimberly@epa.gov](mailto:Tomczak.Kimberly@epa.gov)>; Bauer, Jeremy <[Bauer.Jeremy@epa.gov](mailto:Bauer.Jeremy@epa.gov)>; Bingham, Kimberly <[Bingham.Kimberly@epa.gov](mailto:Bingham.Kimberly@epa.gov)>; Dominy, Randy <[Dominy.Randy@epa.gov](mailto:Dominy.Randy@epa.gov)>; Gorman, John <[Gorman.John@epa.gov](mailto:Gorman.John@epa.gov)>; Moore, Audrey <[Moore.Audrey@epa.gov](mailto:Moore.Audrey@epa.gov)>; Rodriguez, Nancy <[Rodriguez.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Rodriguez.Nancy@epa.gov)>; Wilson, Clyde <[Wilson.Clyde@epa.gov](mailto:Wilson.Clyde@epa.gov)>; Wood, Melaniel <[Wood.Melaniel@epa.gov](mailto:Wood.Melaniel@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: US Today Article Critical of EPA on Flea Collars Related to Pet Deaths

Donald:

Thanks for sharing, this came up on the Regional Public Affairs directors call on Tuesday and OCSPP is aware of it. Please let your public affairs folks know if you get any questions.

Sincerely,  
Beth

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**From:** Baumgartner, Donald <[baumgartner.donald@epa.gov](mailto:baumgartner.donald@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 04, 2021 10:50 AM

**To:** Buster, Pamela <[Buster.Pamela@epa.gov](mailto:Buster.Pamela@epa.gov)>; Hopkins, Yvette <[Hopkins.Yvette@epa.gov](mailto:Hopkins.Yvette@epa.gov)>; O'Neill, Sandra <[O'Neill.Sandra@epa.gov](mailto:O'Neill.Sandra@epa.gov)>; Walsh, Linsey <[Walsh.Linsey@epa.gov](mailto:Walsh.Linsey@epa.gov)>; Wire, Cindy <[Wire.Cindy@epa.gov](mailto:Wire.Cindy@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Baumgartner, Donald <[baumgartner.donald@epa.gov](mailto:baumgartner.donald@epa.gov)>; Ryan, Emily <[ryan.emily@epa.gov](mailto:ryan.emily@epa.gov)>; Garcia, Beth <[garcia.beth@epa.gov](mailto:garcia.beth@epa.gov)>; Corbett, Richard <[Corbett.Richard@epa.gov](mailto:Corbett.Richard@epa.gov)>; Glynn, Tara <[Glynn.Tara@epa.gov](mailto:Glynn.Tara@epa.gov)>; Hoernemann, Courtenay <[Hoernemann.Courtenay@epa.gov](mailto:Hoernemann.Courtenay@epa.gov)>; Huff, Blake <[Huff.Blake@epa.gov](mailto:Huff.Blake@epa.gov)>; Khan, Sidrah <[khan.sidrah@epa.gov](mailto:khan.sidrah@epa.gov)>; Koethe, Robert <[Koethe.Robert@epa.gov](mailto:Koethe.Robert@epa.gov)>; Lee, Bill <[Lee.Bill@epa.gov](mailto:Lee.Bill@epa.gov)>; Livingston, Pat <[Livingston.Patricia@epa.gov](mailto:Livingston.Patricia@epa.gov)>; Martin, Kevin <[Martin.Kevin@epa.gov](mailto:Martin.Kevin@epa.gov)>; Merritt, Alex <[Merritt.Alex@epa.gov](mailto:Merritt.Alex@epa.gov)>; Olson, Bethany <[olson.bethany@epa.gov](mailto:olson.bethany@epa.gov)>; Plewe, Bethany <[Plewe.Bethany@epa.gov](mailto:Plewe.Bethany@epa.gov)>; Pluta, Alexander <[pluta.alexander@epa.gov](mailto:pluta.alexander@epa.gov)>; Szylvian, Andrea M. <[Szylvian.Andrea@epa.gov](mailto:Szylvian.Andrea@epa.gov)>; Weiler, Gregory <[weiler.gregory@epa.gov](mailto:weiler.gregory@epa.gov)>; Wilcoxon, Katy <[Wilcoxon.Katy@epa.gov](mailto:Wilcoxon.Katy@epa.gov)>; Yeley, Megan <[Yeley.Megan@epa.gov](mailto:Yeley.Megan@epa.gov)>; Anderson, Marcia <[Anderson.Marcia@epa.gov](mailto:Anderson.Marcia@epa.gov)>; Beard, Phillip <[Beard.Phillip@epa.gov](mailto:Beard.Phillip@epa.gov)>; Brogdon, Ralph <[Brogdon.Ralph@epa.gov](mailto:Brogdon.Ralph@epa.gov)>; Calero, Norman <[Calero.Norman@epa.gov](mailto:Calero.Norman@epa.gov)>; Gregory, Lynne <[Gregory.Lynne@epa.gov](mailto:Gregory.Lynne@epa.gov)>; Hawley, Sarah <[hawley.sarah@epa.gov](mailto:hawley.sarah@epa.gov)>; Helder, Dirk <[Helder.Dirk@epa.gov](mailto:Helder.Dirk@epa.gov)>; Leshner, Mark <[Leshner.Mark@epa.gov](mailto:Leshner.Mark@epa.gov)>; McPherson, Kenneth <[McPherson.Kenneth@epa.gov](mailto:McPherson.Kenneth@epa.gov)>; Raguza, Holly <[Raguza.Holly@epa.gov](mailto:Raguza.Holly@epa.gov)>; Satter, Suzanne <[satter.suzanne@epa.gov](mailto:satter.suzanne@epa.gov)>; Sorto, Evelyn <[sorto.evelyn@epa.gov](mailto:sorto.evelyn@epa.gov)>; Tomczak, Kimberly <[Tomczak.Kimberly@epa.gov](mailto:Tomczak.Kimberly@epa.gov)>; Bauer, Jeremy <[Bauer.Jeremy@epa.gov](mailto:Bauer.Jeremy@epa.gov)>; Bingham, Kimberly <[Bingham.Kimberly@epa.gov](mailto:Bingham.Kimberly@epa.gov)>; Dominy, Randy <[Dominy.Randy@epa.gov](mailto:Dominy.Randy@epa.gov)>; Gorman, John <[Gorman.John@epa.gov](mailto:Gorman.John@epa.gov)>; Moore, Audrey <[Moore.Audrey@epa.gov](mailto:Moore.Audrey@epa.gov)>; Rodriguez, Nancy <[Rodriguez.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Rodriguez.Nancy@epa.gov)>; Wilson, Clyde <[Wilson.Clyde@epa.gov](mailto:Wilson.Clyde@epa.gov)>; Wood, Melaniel <[Wood.Melaniel@epa.gov](mailto:Wood.Melaniel@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** US Today Article Critical of EPA on Flea Collars Related to Pet Deaths

The below linked article came to my attention a couple days ago, when found by a colleague here in R5. Sharing with you as FYI. If picked up by the media even more, this has a potential to get big.

Perhaps worth an addition to the next OPP/OECA call, with a rep from OPP addressing???

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/investigations/2021/03/02/seresto-dog-cat-collars-found-harm-pets-humans-epa-records-show/4574753001/>

“...Seresto, one of the most popular flea and tick collars in the country, has been linked to hundreds of pet deaths, tens of thousands of injured animals and hundreds of harmed humans, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency documents show. Yet the EPA has done nothing to inform the public of the risks....” [USA Today]

## *Donald*

Donald Baumgartner, B.S., M.S. Medical Entomologist  
R5 WPS Coordinator, R5 C&T Coord., MI Tech Contact, Bed Bug Specialist, Zika/Mosq Control, Urban Pests, Pollinators  
TSCA and Pesticides Section (LL-17J), Land and Chemicals Branch  
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For pesticide information visit <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/> or <http://npic.orst.edu/>

R5 Bed Bug Hotline at 888/644-2200 or [bedbugs@umn.edu](mailto:bedbugs@umn.edu)

To report environmental violations visit <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-incidents>

Life Lesson: We do not stop playing because we grow old, we grow old because we stop playing.

**Have a Bed Bug Free Day!**

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