



## DDT Wars: Rescuing Our National Bird, Preventing Cancer, and Creating EDF (Hardback)

By Charles F. Wurster

Oxford University Press Inc, United States, 2015. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. During the 1950s and 60s, scientists began to question the widespread use of DDT, a pesticide used indiscriminately for agricultural purposes because of its efficiency in killing insects. Researchers were discovering that contact with the chemical was leading to the decline of many species of predatory birds, and was a major factor in causing cancer and reproductive defects in humans. DDT was affecting ecosystems in both the Arctic and Antarctic, and was contaminating countless species of animals by working its way up the food chain. In 1962, Rachel Carson famously wrote about the plight in *Silent Spring*, and in 1972, the Environmental Protection Agency banned the substance. The road to banning DDT, however, was far from straightforward. The grassroots movement, which was led by a group of ten scientists who created Environmental Defense Fund, was opposed early and often by various corporations and political groups. These groups claimed that EDF was based on junk science, and that its founding scientists were simply radicals. One of these scientists was Charles Wurster, and in *DDT Wars* Wurster gives us the story of the many scientific and...



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