

## Macro Roundup Article

**Headline:** [Global Sperm Counts Are Falling. This Scientist Believes She Knows Why](#)

**Article Link:** <https://www.ft.com/content/f14ab282-1dd3-46bf-be02-a59aff3a90ed>

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**Tweet:** Shanna Swan argues that falling sperm counts around the world are likely driven the proliferation of “endocrine disrupting” chemicals which are used in pesticides and plastic manufacturing.

**Summary:** For more than two decades she has devoted her life to studying the effects of “endocrine disrupting” chemicals (EDCs), which can interfere with the body’s natural hormones. These include pesticides, bisphenols, which harden plastic so it can be used in food storage containers and baby bottles, and phthalates, which soften plastic for use in packaging and products such as garden hoses. In recent years, traces of EDCs have been found in breast milk, placental tissue, urine, blood, and seminal fluid. The innocuous products in your kitchen cupboard, bathroom cabinet or garden shed may be lowering sperm counts. They could also affect the reproductive systems of your unborn children. The implications of EDCs for human health don’t stop there: they can disrupt thyroid function, trigger cancer and obesity.

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**Primary Topic:** Demographics

**Topics:** Demographics, Family/Marriage, News article, Workforce

**Permalink:** <https://www.edwardconard.com/macro-roundup/shanna-swan-argues-that-falling-sperm-counts-around-the-world-are-likely-driven-the-proliferation-of-endocrine-disrupting-chemicals-which-are-used-in-pesticides-and-plastic-manufacture?view=detail>

**Featured Image**

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