

## Chloropicrin: Chemical weapon or pesticide?

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The U.S. has recently accused Russia of using chemical weapons such as **Chloropicrin** against Ukrainian forces, which violates the **Chemical Weapons Convention**.



[ref-newsx]

### **About Chloropicrin:**

- Chloropicrin acts as a **broad-spectrum fumigant** and can serve multiple roles, including warfare agent, antimicrobial agent, herbicide, nematicide, and pesticide.
- It appears as a **colourless to faintly yellow oily liquid** and shares characteristics with tear gas.
- This substance is highly volatile and becomes a **gas** at **room temperature**.
- Also known by names such as nitrochloroform, picfume, picride, and trichloronitromethane.
- Exposure to **Chloropicrin** can lead to **several health risks**, including irritation, vomiting, tears-inducing effects, and carcinogenicity.
- It was first deployed as a poison gas during the **First World War** by both the **Allied** and **Central Powers**.