

YABA

A colorful, addictive drug has made its way across the ocean from Asia to the United States in the last few years. While it originates in Asia, it has played a part in world history, even giving Nazi soldiers an extra boost of energy to commit crimes against humanity. While Yaba has a long history of addicting and destroying its users, only recently has it immigrated to the United States. Today, it is unfortunately becoming more common to find the drug at parties and clubs, introducing young people to a danger even greater than meth. Although illegal around the world, Yaba's increasing popularity and the bright colors of its tablets make it a real threat to teens and even young children.



Methamphetamine Tablets (Yaba)

WHAT IS YABA?

Yaba, which is primarily made in the southeast Asian country of Burma, contains a deadly combination of meth and caffeine. The caffeine makes the drug even more dangerous than meth alone, adding increased energy and blood pressure to a state of confusion, paranoia, and incoherence. You might hear people refer to Yaba by a few other names, such as "Nazi speed" or "crazy medicine" (the literal meaning of the Thai word "Yaba").

HISTORY

The most notorious use of Yaba occurred during the 1940s, when German soldiers took it to prepare for strenuous activity like fighting battles. This led to the drug's nickname, "Nazi speed." Its widespread use in southeast Asia is responsible for countless road accidents and violent deaths.

In the United States, Yaba is still most commonly found in immigrant communities, as Asian users with connections smuggle it into the country. As these users introduce it to their new acquaintances, however, it is quickly becoming a popular alternative to more carefully controlled drugs with similar effects.

Yaba, which is primarily created in the southeast Asian country of Burma, contains a deadly combination of meth and caffeine.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Go to www.intheknowzone.com for more information on substance abuse. Increase your knowledge using the information, statistics, images, and links. Test your understanding with a quick quiz.

**Don't stay in the dark.
Get In the Know!**

in the know

© 2012 Education Specialty Publishing, LLC
P.O. Box 6986 Metairie, LA 70009 • 877-329-0578
www.ESPublish.com • product #PB-DA217
This pamphlet may not be copied.

YABA

*meth, caffeine
& addiction*





APPEARANCE

It's easy to spot Yaba—it comes in the form of tablets, about the size of a small breath mint and is brightly colored (usually red, orange, or green), sometimes carrying one or two letters like R or WY. Users and sellers hide them in drinking straws and mint containers, but they easily attract the attention of young children because they look like candy. Having them in a home could quickly lead to the injury or death of an innocent child that discovers and swallows them. Even worse, the pills are sometimes made with fruit or vanilla flavors to make them even more attractive.

Why give Yaba such a distinctive, attractive color? The manufacturers of the drug, having no conscience about putting young lives in danger, understand that once a child or teenager tries Yaba, he or she will most likely be a slave to it for life.

INJESTED, INHALED OR INJECTED

Swallowing the pills is the simplest way that people abuse Yaba. However, in an attempt to intensify the drug's effects, people may burn it and inhale the smoke and fumes it produces. An even more dangerous method is to dissolve the pills in liquid and inject the solution directly into the bloodstream. If swallowed as a pill, Yaba has effects lasting between four and six hours. If inhaled as smoke or injected, the effects only last about 30 minutes, but are far more intense.

SHORT TERM EFFECTS

U.S. drug agencies still categorize Yaba as meth, even though it also contains caffeine. Meth makes the user dizzy, detaches him from reality, and creates a false feeling of emotional intensity. The caffeine content adds a heavy dose of what you might feel after drinking a lot of coffee—increased heart rate, uncontrolled energy, and strong alertness. These combined effects immediately put the user into a very hazardous situation, as he feels driven to release huge amounts of energy but is not fully aware of his surroundings.

Yaba used to be a popular drug with truckers and bus drivers in Thailand, but the government cracked down on enforcement when it became clear that drivers who used it were incapable of driving safely. It took many tragic crashes and the loss of many innocent lives before Thai

officials decided that the short term effects of Yaba must be kept off public roads.

LONG TERM EFFECTS

Once the initial "high" wears off, Yaba leaves the user's body struggling to recover. Chills, drastic temperature fluctuations, and severe mental distress are just some of the consequences of recovery. All the same, the highly addictive nature of meth pulls users back again, and they find it extremely difficult to stop taking Yaba once they begin.

In time, the drug causes damage to blood vessels and organs like the heart, kidneys, and liver. The risk for heart problems like stroke increases dramatically, and pain from the physical damage becomes a fact of life.



CRAZY MEDICINE

Even those that use Yaba make no secret of the fact that it makes its victims "crazy." Not only does it put the body through a four- to six-hour long ordeal of heightened strain, it exerts an incredibly strong hold on those that abuse it. The physical and mental consequences take effect immediately and only get worse, making it nearly impossible for an addict to function normally at work, school, or home. The side effects for a person that is high on Yaba are frequently tragic, as the impaired mind does not stop the person from using his boundless energy to try to drive, pick a fight, or do something else that will certainly lead to harm.

VERY ILLEGAL

Because this drug is illegal in the U.S., stiff legal penalties wait for those that decide to give it a try. Drug agencies target Yaba because it poses such a serious threat to innocent children who could find them and mistake them for candy. Yaba, like methamphetamine, is classified as Schedule II controlled substance and carries prison terms and huge fines for those caught with it.

Yaba is highly addictive and highly destructive. Have respect for your body, mind and those that care about you. Steer clear of this deadly, "crazy medicine."

crazy medicine

hazardous

severe mental distress

The highly addictive nature of meth pulls users back again, and they find it extremely difficult to stop taking Yaba once they begin.