



Glyphosate Safety

IARC Reclassification at Odds with Scientific Consensus on Safety of Glyphosate

Updated: April 28, 2015

CURRENT SITUATION

On Friday March 20, the International Agency on the Review of Cancer (IARC) announced its classification of glyphosate in the 2A category as a probable carcinogen. This conclusion conflicts with the overwhelming consensus by regulatory bodies and science organizations around the world. Glyphosate-based herbicides are among the most thoroughly tested and evaluated herbicide products on the market. Their 40-year history of safe use is supported by one of the most extensive worldwide human health, crop residue and environmental databases ever compiled on any pesticide.

KEY POINTS

- The conclusion reached by IARC is **inconsistent with the reviews conducted by regulatory and scientific agencies around the globe** for more than 40 years, and not supported by all scientific data. IARC did not consider new research or data and most importantly, many relevant studies were disregarded. In January, the [German government on behalf of the EU](#), completed a four year evaluation and concluded **“glyphosate was unlikely to pose a carcinogenic risk in humans.”** Similarly, the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#), [has concluded](#) that: **“glyphosate does not pose a cancer risk to humans.”**
- The U.S. soy industry believes that **conclusions about a matter as important as human safety must be non-biased, thorough and based on science** that adheres to internationally recognized standards. **We support the rigorous process used by regulatory authorities** in developed countries to consider all available data, published and unpublished, in a comprehensive evaluation.
- **IARC’s conclusion is inconsistent** with the numerous multi-year, comprehensive assessments conducted by hundreds of scientists within countries worldwide who are responsible for ensuring public safety. Some of these can be found at: [Regulatory Documents](#)
- Soybean farmers are **concerned first and foremost about the safety of their families, employees, their customers and neighbors** in their communities. Farmers **depend on tools** like glyphosate and other herbicides that have been proven safe by the world’s leading scientific and regulatory bodies. Farmers do not just farm their land, they live on it, and work alongside their own families in the fields on which they use these products. Furthermore, **soybean farmers eat the crops they raise.**



AMERICAN SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION STATEMENT: <https://soygrowers.com/soy-growers-iarc-reclassification-at-odds-with-scientific-consensus-on-safety-of-glyphosate/>

OTHER RESOURCES:

- [ECPA Statement reacting to IARC review of Pesticides](#), European Crop Protection
- [IARC’s Report on Roundup / Glyphosate](#), Monsanto.com
- [What the IARC 2A Rating Really Means](#), Beyond the Rows, March 20, 2015
- [Is glyphosate—herbicide linked to GMOs—carcinogenic? Not if science matters](#), Genetic Literacy Project, 3/23/2015
- [Using Glyphosate Politics to Scare People is Wrong](#), Truth About Trade & Technology, 4/2/2015

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