

ECHA classifies glyphosate as non-carcinogenic, non-mutagenic and non-reprotoxic

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Following an evidence-based assessment of data from epidemiological studies and animal studies, the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) announced on 15 March 2017 that a hazard classification of glyphosate as carcinogenic, mutagenic and reprotoxic based on the CLP Regulation is not justified. The CLP Regulation (Regulation on Classification, Labelling and Packaging of Substances and Mixtures) governs the procedure for the Europe-wide harmonisation of the classification and labelling of substances. The expert committee of ECHA is currently preparing its detailed opinion and will submit this opinion to the European Commission for decision. Further information is available on the ECHA website at:

<https://echa.europa.eu/de/home>

The procedure for the Europe-wide harmonisation of the classification and labelling of substances is initiated by the submission of a proposal for the harmonisation of classification and labelling (CLH proposal) to ECHA. In the case of glyphosate, the German proposal for harmonised classification and labelling was submitted to ECHA by the Federal Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (BAuA) in line with the legislation on chemicals. Germany is the Rapporteur Member State for glyphosate, and the German Environment Agency (UBA), the Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety (BVL) and the Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) were involved in this process.

The following institutions share the scientific assessment regarding carcinogenic properties:

- the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and the EU member states
- the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the USA
- the Canadian Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA)
- the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA)
- the Japanese Food Safety Commission
- the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in New Zealand
- the Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR)
- the Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)

The German proposal for the classification of glyphosate as specifically damaging to target organs following repeated exposure was considered by the expert committee of ECHA not to be necessary according to the stipulations of the CLP Regulation. In this connection, it must be pointed out, however, that the effects on which the German proposal is based have been incorporated in the risk assessment of glyphosate by EFSA (e.g. in the derivation of limit values).

Further information on the topic of glyphosate on the BfR website (in German):

http://www.bfr.bund.de/en/a-z_index/glyphosate-193962.html

<http://www.bfr.bund.de/cm/349/popular-misconceptions-opinions-and-questions-in-connection-with-the-bfr-risk-assessment-of-glyphosate.pdf>

About the BfR

The Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) is a scientifically independent institution within the portfolio of the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) in Germany. It

advises the Federal Government and Federal Laender on questions of food, chemical and product safety. The BfR conducts its own research on topics that are closely linked to its assessment tasks.

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