

# THE WESTERN PRODUCER

## Monsanto sues to keep herbicide off California list of carcinogens

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CHICAGO, Ill. (Reuters) — Monsanto has stepped up its defense of glyphosate by filing a lawsuit in California seeking to prevent the state from adding the herbicide to its list of known carcinogens.

The company filed the suit against the state's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment and the agency's acting director, Lauren Zeise.

California law requires the state to keep a list of cancer-causing chemicals to inform residents of their risks.

The state environmental agency said in September that it planned to add glyphosate to the list after the World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer classified it as a probable human carcinogen in March.

Monsanto has disputed the assessment, citing decades of studies deeming glyphosate safe, including a 2007 study by OEHHA that concluded the chemical was unlikely to cause cancer.

Glyphosate is the main ingredient in Monsanto's Roundup herbicide.

"The IARC classification of glyphosate is inconsistent with the findings of regulatory bodies in the United States and around the world, and it is not a sound basis for any regulatory action," said Phil Miller, Monsanto's vice-president of regulatory affairs.

Monsanto's lawsuit argues that listing glyphosate under Proposition 65, as the state's law is known, based on IARC's classification cedes regulatory authority to an "unelected, undemocratic, unaccountable and foreign body" that is not subject to oversight by any state or federal entity.

Monsanto argues that the lack of oversight violates the company's right to procedural due process under California and U.S. law.

A listing would also require Monsanto and others offering products containing glyphosate to provide a "clear and reasonable warning" to consumers that the chemical is known to cause cancer, damaging Monsanto's reputation and violating its First Amendment rights, the company said.

Roundup is used by farmers around the world, generating Monsanto \$4.8 billion in fiscal 2015 revenue. Genetically modified seeds designed to tolerate glyphosate are immensely popular among corn and soybean growers.

However, questions from environmentalists and other critics about the safety of the herbicide have dogged the company for years.

Since IARC's classification last year, Monsanto has been named in numerous lawsuits accusing the company of knowing of the dangers of glyphosate for decades.

## **ROUNDUP WILL CAUSE NO HARM — IARC HAS BEEN DISCREDITED !**

Glyphosate ( Roundup ) will NOT cause cancer. The IARC's anti-glyphosate study was WRONG. There is NO evidence that glyphosate causes cancer, according to a Panel of Leading Scientific Experts that has DISCREDITED and CONTRADICTED the IARC's anti-glyphosate study on the basis of epidemiology and toxicology. On March 20th, 2015, the International Agency for Research on Cancer ( IARC ), a mere subsidiary of World Health Organization ( WHO ), arbitrarily classified glyphosate as probably carcinogenic on the basis of limited evidence, rendering its study as severely flawed, distorted, and unbalanced. The IARC's anti-glyphosate study was a surprise because this herbicide is known for being one of the safest and most studied pesticides in the world. According to the Panel — « IARC's equivalent working groups' reviews SUFFERED FROM SIGNIFICANT WEAKNESSES such as — SELECTIVITY in the choice of data reviewed, FAILURE to use all relevant biologic information to evaluate relationship to treatment in animal bioassays, and FAILURE to use weight-of-evidence evaluations using all available data and appropriate weighting. » « NONE of the results [ are ] from a very large data-base, using different methodologies, provides evidence of, or a potential mechanism for, human carcinogenesis. » The Panel's Leading Experts have REAL recognized expertise, training, and background in matters concerning glyphosate from countries like Canada, the United States, Germany, and the United Kingdom. These Leading Experts reviewed scientific literature on the subject of glyphosate and cancer risk, and concluded that there is NO evidence that glyphosate causes cancer. They also said that IARC relied too heavily on studies of questionable merit, and did NOT properly account for real world exposures to glyphosate. The Panel included Leading Scientific Experts like Dr Keith Ross Solomon, who is a Doctorate-Level Expert and World Leading Scientific Expert in the Field of Environmental Biology, Toxicology, and Pesticide Safety. He is also Professor in the Department of Environmental Biology at the University of Guelph in Ontario, and Director of the Centre for Toxicology. The Panel's findings are consistent with ... • European Food Safety Authority's ( EFSA ) conclusion that glyphosate is unlikely to pose a carcinogenic hazard to humans • Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency which concluded that the overall weight of evidence indicates that glyphosate is unlikely to pose a human cancer risk • US Environmental Protection Agency's ( EPA ) conclusion that a set of 55 epidemiological studies does NOT provide evidence to show that glyphosate causes cancer. If you question that glyphosate is carcinogenic based on the IARC's anti-glyphosate study, perhaps you should consider advocating bans against similarly classified products & activities, like bacon, baked food, burgers, cooked meat, fish, fried food, grapefruit juice, night shift work, paint remover, roasted food, sausages, and vegetables. IARC has also evaluated

chemical agents & activities that have HIGHER carcinogenic hazard than glyphosate, like alcoholic beverages, baby oil, oral contraceptives, outdoor air pollution, painter, plutonium, and sunlight. For more information about IARC, go to ... <http://wp.me/p1jq40-8RO> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-5Lc> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-8M4> For more information about GLYPHOSATE, go to ... <http://wp.me/P1jq40-1Jb> For more information about PANEL OF LEADING SCIENTIFIC EXPERTS, go to ... <http://wp.me/p1jq40-958> For more information about DR SOLOMON, go to ... <http://wp.me/P1jq40-1Lk>

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