

# Glyphosate Safety

While questions persist about the safety of glyphosate and whether or not it causes cancer, the reality is that glyphosate is among the most studied pesticides in the world and is one of the safest herbicides ever developed. Learn more about the safety of glyphosate with these quick facts, figures and statistics.



## What's the story with glyphosate?

Farmers around the world have been using the [herbicide](https://croplife.ca/facts-figures/herbicides-in-canada/) [glyphosate](https://croplife.ca/field-notes-glyphosate/), often referred to as Roundup, for more than 40 years. It is a tool that has helped revolutionize farming by allowing farmers to control weeds without having to till the soil. It is among the most thoroughly studied pesticides in the world and has one of the best safety profiles of any [herbicide](https://croplife.ca/facts-figures/herbicides-in-canada/) ever developed.

There has been a lot of misinformation out there about glyphosate – so here are the facts.

# Did you know?

Every major regulatory agency around the world, including Health Canada, has concluded that glyphosate does not cause cancer. In 2017 Health Canada did [a full re-evaluation of glyphosate](https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/consumer-product-safety/reports-publications/pesticides-pest-management/decisions-updates/registration-decision/2017/glyphosate-rvd-2017-01.html#a2) (<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/consumer-product-safety/reports-publications/pesticides-pest-management/decisions-updates/registration-decision/2017/glyphosate-rvd-2017-01.html#a2>) where it declared 'products containing glyphosate do not present risks of concern to human health or the environment'.



## What do you need to know about glyphosate?

**40+**

years is how long glyphosate has been on the market. It is one of the safest and most effective herbicides ever developed. [Glyphosate has a lower toxicity.](https://thoughtscapism.com/2018/05/07/measures-of-toxicity/) (<https://thoughtscapism.com/2018/05/07/measures-of-toxicity/>) than many commonly consumed items in our daily lives including table salt, caffeine, vanilla and vitamin D3.

**800+**

rigorous studies submitted to regulators around the world confirm that glyphosate-based herbicides, including Roundup, are safe when used as directed.

**160**

regulatory agencies ([https://geneticliteracyproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/GlyphosateInfographic\\_GLP.pdf](https://geneticliteracyproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/GlyphosateInfographic_GLP.pdf)) around the world agree glyphosate is safe when used according to label directions.

**In  
2017**

the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](https://www.epa.gov/pesticides/epa-releases-draft-risk-assessments-glyphosate) (<https://www.epa.gov/pesticides/epa-releases-draft-risk-assessments-glyphosate>) said that 'Human health risks assessment concludes that glyphosate is not likely to be carcinogenic to humans...and there are no other meaningful risks to human health when the product is used according to the pesticide label.'

**50,000+**

licensed pesticide applicators, the people with the greatest potential exposure to pesticides, were followed for more than 20 years and there was no association found between glyphosate-based herbicide use and cancer, according to the [National Cancer Institute-supported Agricultural Health Study](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29136183/) (<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29136183/>).

**Fact**

Health Canada sets daily exposure limits for pesticide residues on food that are 100x or more below levels that could have a negative impact on human health. [The Canadian Food Inspection Agency has confirmed](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/full/10.1021/acs.jafc.9b07819) (<https://pubs.acs.org/doi/full/10.1021/acs.jafc.9b07819>) that glyphosate residues on food in Canada do not pose a health or safety concern.

Did you know?

Before any pesticide can be sold and used in Canada it must undergo specific tests to evaluate the potential for it to cause human reproductive or developmental disorders. For example, [pesticides have not been shown to cause autism.](https://pesticidefacts.org/topics/human-health-and-pesticides/specific-medical-conditions/autism/#_ftnref3) ([https://pesticidefacts.org/topics/human-health-and-pesticides/specific-medical-conditions/autism/#\\_ftnref3](https://pesticidefacts.org/topics/human-health-and-pesticides/specific-medical-conditions/autism/#_ftnref3))

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