

Dear reader,

The EU can reduce pesticide use right now, with the existing regulations. Read our 10 recommendations. And yes, glyphosate should be banned, read more. Please share our posts and raise awareness in your network. And please [support us](#) if you like our work!

The PAN Europe Team

## News from the team

### European Commission answers to Save Bees and Farmers: It's far from over

The European Commission formally replied to the 1,1 million citizens who signed the European Citizens Initiative “Save Bees and Farmers”. They welcome the initiative as a clear sign of broad public support for action for pollinators, biodiversity and sustainable farming. They urge the European Parliament and the Council to find swift and ambitious agreements on the legislative proposals to reduce pesticides and restore biodiversity. The organisers of the ECI stress the urgency and importance of pesticide reduction to protect people's health, biodiversity and sustainable food production. [Read more](#).



### The arguments to ban glyphosate pile up

Our #STOPGlyphosate Week showed there is abundant scientific evidence that glyphosate can cause harm, and there are enough alternatives to end its use. Independent research points to its negative impacts on bees, soil health, aquatic life and biodiversity in general. The widespread use of the herbicide poses a threat to human health caused by genotoxicity, disruption of the microbiome, potential neurotoxicity, liver damage and endocrine-disrupting properties. The EU food safety agency EFSA cannot simply overlook all this evidence and come up with a positive advice to expose EU citizens and nature to another 15 years of widespread use of glyphosate based herbicides. This would completely bypass the precautionary principle which is the foundation of the EU pesticide regulation. [Read more](#) and [support the campaign to inform the general public](#).

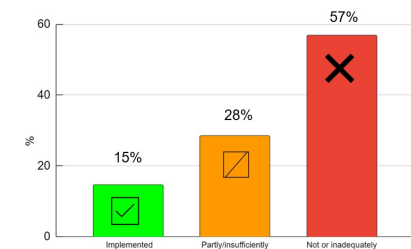
### Yes, EU countries can ban glyphosate products - but Luxembourg made a mistake

A Luxembourg administrative appeal Court cancelled 8 decisions from the Luxembourg government to ban glyphosate-based herbicides (GBHs). The Court details that the ban of GBHs is possible but it needs to follow EU rules as laid down in Regulation (EU) 1107/2009. We explain how. [Read more](#).



### 4 years - State of Play

Implementation of PEST Committee recommendations



### 10 recommendations to close the gaps in EU pesticide authorisation

Europe could and should be much healthier and biodiverse. Four years ago the PEST Committee in the EU Parliament concluded after 9 months of investigations, hearings, missions and commissioning of studies that the current system of pesticides authorisation is failing to achieve its purpose, highlighting the need for urgent change. However, only 15% have been followed up. We present 10 great opportunities to achieve the high level of protection required by the EU pesticides regulation and protect health and the environment. [Read more](#).

## Highlights from Members

### Call for a swift ban of the active substance s-metolachlor

PAN Europe and Générations Futures ask for a proposal for the non-renewal of the herbicide s-metolachlor. Based on the recent negative opinion by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). S-metolachlor is approved in the EU since 1 April 2005. It was set to expire on 31 March 2015, but has been continually extended in recent years as a result of delays in its risk reassessment. The good news is that France has confirmed that the S-metolachlor weedkiller will be banned with an 18-month deadline and will support an EU ban. [Read more](#).



### Social Manifesto on Pesticides

People and nature are not protected from the harmful effect of pesticides. So reads the alarming observation of a broad coalition of organisations in their manifesto in The Netherlands. Initiated by the Parkinson Association, the main trade union and a large environmental organisation, supported by 33 others including PAN Netherlands. [Read more](#).

## Please support our work!

Our work to eliminate the use of toxic pesticides is more important than ever before! With your support, we can change policies and practices for the better protection of our health and environment.

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## Interesting further reads

- May 4 in Hungary: [The European Green Agreement and the reduction of pesticide use](#)
- May 24 in Brussels: [Under the Surface: A Deep Dive Into EU Water Pollution Monitoring and Management Practices](#)
- Watch the recording of the Conference “[Safe and sustainable food production in Croatia](#)”

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