

Dear reader,

The Great Glyphosate Court Case has started! Please support us and we will keep you informed. In the meantime, the negotiations on the EU pesticide reduction law continue at member state level. And the European Commission planned to allow residues of reprotoxic bee killer Thiacloprid on imported food, but the EU Parliament blocked that. Bad news: the EU intends to deregulate plants produced with new genomic techniques (NGTs). This could lead to a surge in pesticide use and production. Read this and more in our newsletter.

The PAN Europe Team

News from the team



The Great Glyphosate Court case has started

With our Austrian, Dutch, French and German members, we have launched a legal challenge against the re-approval of glyphosate. Our experts spent their Christmas holiday analysing all the documents and scientific publications. The first objection is the basis of the procedure and had to be complete. Even we were surprised by the many critical shortcomings. It costs us a lot of work and money, so please support us. [Read more](#).

Support our court case!

Pesticide reduction is urgent: doing nothing is not an option

The EU Parliament declared it dead in November, but EU Countries and the Commission continue with the preparation of a new pesticide law. The Belgians – who will preside over the meetings in the coming months – have some plans for that. This is what is revealed in a leaked document. However, there is strong opposition. Let's make sure these plans include serious and mandatory pesticide reduction: it is urgent to avoid biodiversity collapse and to stop harming our health. Write to the ministers of your country to show them you care. Use [our easy tool to contact them](#) and add your personal message. Don't forget to send a message to the Belgians too (choose Belgium as the country)!



European Parliament: no residues of highly toxic thiacloprid in imported food

Thiacloprid was banned in 2020 because of its toxicity to the unborn, and concerns about the contamination of groundwater with carcinogenic metabolites. Thiacloprid is also highly toxic to bees and other pollinators. While EU law foresees that citizens and the environment should not be exposed to substances that are classified as 'Toxic to reproduction category 1B', the Commission attempted to give derogations for imported food, raising up to 1000-fold for tea for the exposure of citizens. [Read more](#).

Deregulation of new GMOs: an open door for herbicide-tolerant and pesticide-producing plants?

The EU institutions are on a dangerous path to deregulate plants produced with new genomic techniques (NGTs). Farmers' and consumers' rights to choose what they grow and eat are threatened. The hurry and lack of scientific basis for this proposal is a huge threat to health and the environment. [Read more](#).



EU pesticide committee SCoPAFF: the good, the bad and the ugly

The good, the bad and the ugly. That could be the theme of the SCoPAFF meetings on pesticide legislation in the EU. In the next January meeting, representatives of EU countries plan to mix a few good developments with several bad ones. Everything is deeply

affected by the ugliness arising from the failing implementation of the pesticide law. Too slow and too lax to protect health and the environment. We supplied the Members of the Committee with detailed expert advice to support them in their decision-making. [Read more](#).

Addressing the 9-years Gap: The Long-Awaited Proposal on Safeners and Synergists

Safener, for who? Synergist, with what? These substances can be added to pesticide formulations. The EU pesticide law says they should be regulated, but nothing happened in the last 9 years. Now there finally is a proposal to take care of that. So far these potentially harmful pesticide ingredients fly below the radar, so we welcome the proposal. [Read more](#).



Highlights from Members



Video series on how to protect health and avoid daily toxins

The Spanish organisation Hogar sin Tóxicos (Toxic-free Households) produced a video series, organised by our Spanish member Viva Sano. The videos in the series 'Alert, daily toxins, let's protect our health' tell people about the effects of toxic substances that can be found in and around the house. The video about pesticides and how

to avoid them is by our director Martin Dermine of PAN Europe. See [the videos here](#) (in Spanish).

“Pesticides in the air”: the new report by Générations Futures

Pesticides are in the air. That's what the latest French NGO Générations Futures highlights in its January report. They explain why the current 5 to 10-meter no-treatment zones (ZNT) don't work. They are intended to protect local residents from aerial exposure to pesticides in agricultural areas. However, the results of air analyses show that even several dozen meters away from treated areas, pesticide concentrations in the air remain high. Up to 35 different pesticide substances, including glyphosate, were detected. Read more in the [French](#) report.



Pesticides : c'est dans l'air !
Episode 3 : Focus sur trois zones agricoles



Why does the EU Commission not act against Romania's unlawful pesticide derogations?

Romania is breaking EU law by allowing the use of banned pesticides. In January last year, the European Court of Justice ruled that such derogations go against EU law. Yet the Romanian Ministry of Agriculture recently granted new emergency use authorisations for three neonicotinoid-based products to be used this spring. Together with the beekeepers' organisation Romapis, we wrote to the European Commission asking them to stop this illegal practice. The Commission has not replied yet and seems to be afraid to take action. [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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