



12th April 2015

Dear Member of the European Parliament,

On April 13th, you will vote on the Environment Committee's objection to the Commission's proposal to renew the EU license for glyphosate, the active ingredient in many widely used herbicides.

The European Commission's current proposal:

- is for the maximum period possible (15 years),
- allows a 66% increase in residues on food,
- bans only one of the nearly 500 possible co-formulants, polyethoxylated (POE)-tallowamine, which is already no longer used in Germany, one of Europe's largest pesticides markets,

Pesticide Action Network Europe (PAN Europe), Health & Environment Alliance (HEAL), Slow Food and Greenpeace ask you to support this objection because:

- there are serious concerns about potential health impacts from glyphosate, based on scientifically rigorous and transparent examination,
- the EU process for evaluating the risks posed by glyphosate has had serious weaknesses, revealed by the contradictions between EFSA and the world's top agency on cancer (IARC),
- people and the environment are massively exposed to glyphosate-based herbicides in agriculture, public areas, forests and private gardens, so the consequences of misjudging the harm by relying on a flawed EU assessment EFSA are severe,
- European agriculture can do better without glyphosate because it harms soil fertility and plant health over the long term; alternatives exist and have been used with success,
- EFSA opinions cannot solely determine EU risk management choices – the institutions must uphold the EU Treaty and ensure the high level of protection of human health and the environment, based on the precautionary principle.

We therefore ask you to vote in favor of the objection to the Commission's ill-considered proposal for glyphosate renewal and stand for the protection of human health, environment, and safer farming for all agricultural communities.

For more details elaborating the above points, please see the attached background paper.

Our voting recommendations on key amendments are below.

Best regards,

Angeliki Lyssimachou (PAN Europe)
Lisette van Vliet (HEAL)
Marta Messa (Slow Food)
Franziska Achterberg (Greenpeace)

VOTING RECOMMENDATIONS

Please REJECT:

Amendment 10 (EPP) demanding that the Commission, instead of taking action at EU level, recommend EU Member States to limit non-professional and pre-harvest uses of glyphosate;

Amendments 11 (EPP) and 20 (ALDE) asking the Commission to allow glyphosate for another 7 or 5 years, i.e. way beyond the time needed to complete the ECHA classification and subsequent decision-making process;

Amendments 39 to 51 (ECR) which fully support the current Commission proposal.

Please SUPPORT:

Amendments 32, 33 and 35 (Greens/EFA, EFDD) demanding an EU-wide ban on non-professional uses, uses in or close to public parks, playgrounds and gardens, and use for pre-harvest desiccation;

Amendment 38 (Greens/EFA, EFDD) calling on EU Member States to improve their monitoring of glyphosate residues in food.