

EN
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Answer given by Mr Andriukaitis
on behalf of the European Commission
(7.12.2018)

The Commission has no authority to comment on the outcome of judicial procedures in third countries, involving products authorised for use in third countries, and wishes to recall that the United States (US) trial took place in relation to a product authorised for the US market.

In December 2017, the Commission renewed the approval¹ of glyphosate - an active substance in a number of plant protection products, among which is Roundup - for 5 years, based on the outcome of the comprehensive scientific assessment conducted by Member States, the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) and the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).

The Commission would like to recall that the Committee for Risk Assessment (RAC) of ECHA concluded² that based on the available scientific evidence, the criteria to classify glyphosate as carcinogenic were not met. RAC also concluded that there is no evidence to classify glyphosate as mutagenic or as toxic for reproduction. EFSA reached the same conclusion³ in 2015 and further concluded that no unacceptable effects on human or animal health and the environment are expected when glyphosate is used properly.

Following the renewal of the approval in the EU, Member States are now reviewing each plant protection product containing glyphosate, taking into account the conditions and restrictions set in the renewed approval, to ensure that use of such products does not have any unacceptable effect on human and animal health or the environment.

Furthermore, a full scale reassessment of glyphosate will begin in December 2019 if producers submit a dossier to support further renewal of approval.

¹ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/2324 of 12 December 2017 renewing the approval of the active substance glyphosate in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market, and amending the Annex to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 540/2011. OJ L 333, 15.12.2017, p. 10.

² European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) (2017). Opinion of the Committee for Risk Assessment proposing harmonised classification and labelling of glyphosate (ISO); N-(phosphonomethyl)glycine (EC Number: 213-997-4; CAS Number: 1071-83-6).

³ EFSA (European Food Safety Authority), 2015. Conclusion on the peer review of the pesticide risk assessment of the active substance glyphosate. EFSA Journal 2015;13(11):4302, 107 pp. doi:10.2903/j.efsa.2015.4302 ; <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/corporate/pub/glyphosate151112>