

Glyphosate Status Update

PPDC Meeting November 1, 2017 – Session 5

Background

- EPA initiated registration review for glyphosate in 2009.
- Multiple delays in the release of the risk assessments for glyphosate were caused by certain science issues: the need to incorporate results of its endocrine screening for glyphosate, the Natural Resource Defense Council (NRDC) petition, and most recently, the International Agency for Research on Cancer's (IARC) classification of glyphosate as a probable cancer agent in 2015.
- Various regulatory agencies have also concluded that glyphosate does not cause cancer (in opposition to IARC). These include the European Food Safety Authority, Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency, Germany's BfR, the World Health Organization's Joint Meeting on Pesticide Residues, and the European Chemicals Agency.
- EPA held a FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) meeting for glyphosate in December 2016 to discuss the carcinogenic potential of glyphosate. The agency proposed to classify glyphosate as not likely to cause cancer. Recommendations from the SAP were received in March 2017 and EPA is working to address the recommendations received.

Status Update

- EPA is preparing to issue for public comment the registration review draft risk assessments for glyphosate in early 2018. The components of the draft risk assessments will include:
 - Human health draft risk assessment that incorporates the cancer re-evaluation, an updated incident report, review of the literature for non-cancer effects, and a summary of the EPA analyses of human milk.
 - Ecological draft risk assessment
- Along with the draft risk assessments, EPA will issue a revised cancer white paper and a response to the March 2017 FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel Report.
- Once public comments are received on the risk assessment, EPA will revise its risk assessments (if needed) and issue a Proposed Interim Decision for public comment, which will include proposed labeling changes and other risk mitigation measures, if necessary.
- After public comments on the Proposed Interim Decision are received and evaluated, EPA will issue an Interim Decision.
- EPA plans to complete a Final Decision after an evaluation of risks to pollinators and a complete endangered species assessment.
- EPA plans to initiate endangered species consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service by 2020.