



Glyphosate not classified as a carcinogen by ECHA

ECHA/PR/17/06

ECHA's Committee for Risk Assessment (RAC) agrees to maintain the current harmonised classification of glyphosate as a substance causing serious eye damage and being toxic to aquatic life with long-lasting effects. RAC concluded that the available scientific evidence did not meet the criteria to classify glyphosate as a carcinogen, as a mutagen or as toxic for reproduction.

Helsinki, 15 March 2017 – RAC assessed glyphosate's hazardousness against the criteria in the Classification, Labelling and Packaging Regulation. They considered extensive scientific data in coming to their opinion.

The committee concluded that the scientific evidence available at the moment warrants the following classifications for glyphosate according to the CLP Regulation:

- Eye Damage 1; H318 (Causes serious eye damage)
- Aquatic Chronic 2; H411 (Toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects)

RAC concluded that the available scientific evidence did not meet the criteria in the CLP Regulation to classify glyphosate for specific target organ toxicity, or as a carcinogen, as a mutagen or for reproductive toxicity.

The hazard classes for which classification was proposed by the German competent authority were specific target organ toxicity (repeated exposure) (category 2), eye damage/irritation (category 1), and toxicity to the aquatic environment (Aquatic Chronic 2). ECHA also assessed other hazard classes including carcinogenicity, germ cell mutagenicity and reproductive toxicity.

The adopted opinion will go through a normal editorial check before it is sent to the European Commission. The opinion will also be made available on ECHA's website at the same time.

The adopted opinion on the harmonised classification for glyphosate will be taken into account when the Commission and Member States consider whether to renew the approval to use glyphosate as an active substance in pesticides, later this year.

Background

Apart from the published studies on glyphosate, the committee also had full access to the original reports of studies conducted by industry. RAC has assessed all the scientific data, including any scientifically relevant information received during the public consultation in summer 2016.

RAC had a first discussion on glyphosate with stakeholders at its 39th meeting in December 2016.

RAC provides an independent scientific opinion on the hazard classification of the substance. The classification **is based solely on the hazardous properties of the substance**. It does not take into account the likelihood of exposure to the substance and therefore does not address the risks of exposure. The risks posed by exposure are considered for example when deciding whether to renew the approval of glyphosate as a pesticide in accordance with the EU's Plant Protection Product Regulation (Regulation (EC) N° 1107/2009).

Further information

- Video: Recording of RAC press briefing (15 March 2017)
- CLH Report submitted by the German competent authority and comments received during the public consultation
- RAC starts discussing the harmonised classification of glyphosate (News item - 7 December 2016)
- ECHA's role in assessing glyphosate (News item - 7 July 2016)
- Video: Explaining ECHA's role in the glyphosate classification process
- More information about glyphosate on ECHA's website

How ECHA is assessing glyphosate (ECHA Newsletter - September 2016)

Committee for Risk Assessment

EFSA's web pages on glyphosate

LEGISLATION

REACH
CLP
BPR
PIC
CAD/CMD (OELs)
WFD
POPs

CONSULTATIONS

Draft recommendation for inclusion in the Authorisation List and consultation
Applications for authorisation consultations
Consultations on new scientific evidence
Testing proposals consultation
Harmonised classification and labelling consultations
Submitted restrictions under consideration
ECHA Executive Director's requests related to the CLH process
Current calls for comments and evidence
Consultation on potential candidates for substitution
Consultation on derogation to the exclusion criteria
ECHA's Executive Director Requests to the Committees
Harmonised classification and labelling targeted consultations
Consultation on a draft recommendation for amendment of Authorisation List entries
Consultations in the authorisation process
Substances of very high concern identification
Occupational exposure limits - Call for comments and evidence
Occupational exposure limits - Previous calls for comments and evidence
Occupational exposure limits – Consultations on OEL recommendation
Derogations for the protection of cultural heritage
Proposals for new POPs

INFORMATION ON CHEMICALS

Registered substances
Registry of restriction intentions until outcome
Registry of SVHC intentions until outcome
Registry of CLH intentions until outcome
ECHA's current activities on restrictions
ECHA's completed activities on restriction
Annex III inventory
Pre-registered substances
EC Inventory
Dossier Evaluation status
PACT
Endocrine disruptor assessment list
PBT assessment list
Substance evaluation - CoRAP
RMOA list
Information on Candidate List substances in articles table
REACH registration statistics
C&L Inventory
Substances restricted under REACH
Biocidal Active Substances
Biocidal Products
List of active substances and suppliers
Chemicals subject to PIC
Transitional Measures
Information from the Existing Substances Regulation (ESR)
PBT/vPvB assessments under the previous EU chemicals legislation
Candidate List
Submitted recommendations
Adopted opinions and previous consultations on applications for authorisation
Authorisation List
Adopted opinions on restriction proposals
Mapping exercise – Plastic additives initiative

SUPPORT

Guidance
Getting started
Q&As Support
Testing methods and alternatives
Webinars
Dossier Submission Tools
National Helpdesks
Practical examples of exposure scenarios
Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs)
Registration phases
Practical examples of chemical safety reports
Substance identification
Authorisation
Restriction
Submission of CLH dossiers
Socio-economic analysis in REACH
QSAR Toolbox
How to improve your dossier
Mixture classification
UK withdrawal from the EU
Recommendations to registrants

[Occupational exposure limits
substance evaluations](#)

[List of substances subject to POPs
Regulation](#)

[List of substances proposed as POPs](#)

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