



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
 DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Deputy Director General for Food Safety

Brussels,  
 SANTE/E4/WR/df(2017) 4440961

Dear Mr [5.1.2.e Woo]

**Subject: Request for a Statement following the further publication of documents related to Monsanto and glyphosate ("Monsanto Papers")**

In March 2017, articles were published in the press following the release of documents in the United States as part of ongoing legal proceedings concerning Monsanto and glyphosate – the so called "Monsanto papers". In May 2017 EFSA was requested by the Commission to consider the allegations made in these documents and subsequently issued a Statement on this subject in June 2017.

On 1 August 2017 various press sources reported on the publication of further documents<sup>1</sup>, in particular in relation to the difference of the potential dermal absorption for glyphosate and glyphosate-based formulations.

In view of the above, I would like to ask EFSA whether the elements of the latest released information relating to scientific evidence, including in particular the study showing the highest levels of dermal absorption<sup>2</sup> referenced therein, would impact the overall assessment and conclusions of glyphosate as reported in the EFSA Conclusion<sup>3</sup> on glyphosate.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.baumhedlundlaw.com/toxic-tort-law/monsanto-roundup-lawsuit/monsanto-secret-documents>

<sup>2</sup> *In vitro* percutaneous absorption study with [<sup>14</sup>C]glyphosphate using viable rat skin membranes. [5.1.2.e Woo] TNO project number 010.45110

<sup>3</sup> 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.

**Mr** [5.1.2.e Woo]  
 [5.1.2.e Woo]  
 E-mail: [5.1.2.e Woo]@efsa.europa.eu

I would welcome your response within two weeks from the date of receipt of this request.

Yours sincerely,

5.1.2.e Woo

Cc: Mr 5.1.2.e Woo, Mr 5.1.2.e Woo, Ms 5.1.2.e Woo, Ms 5.1.2.e Woo (EFSA)  
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