Q Why did IARC classify glyphosate as a probable carcinogen?

The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) is not a regulatory agency and does not undertake any research of its own. It plays a role in advising regulatory bodies on potential hazards. This allows the relevant regulatory agencies to assess if there are any associated risks and manage them appropriately.

Substances such as aloe vera, pickled vegetables and coconut oil are all on the IARC lists of possible or probable carcinogens.

In 2015 IARC placed glyphosate on its probable carcinogen list from a pure hazard perspective. While that sounds alarming at first, it simply means glyphosate is in the same category as shift work or consuming red meat or beverages above 65°C.

The world's leading independent scientific regulators comprehensively reviewed the IARC report and reaffirmed that products containing glyphosate pose no risk of cancer.

"Fake news serves us poorly. As Academy of Science Fellow Dr TJ Higgins once said 'red herrings are in plentiful supply but they will not feed nine or 10 billion people'. GM (genetic modification) and glyphosate, however, just might."

PROFESSOR EMERITUS JIM PRATLEY,
CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY

Q What if we didn't have glyphosate?

Glyphosate is an essential tool for Australian farmers, environmental land managers and councils to be productive in an environment that is under constant threat of weeds.

Over two thirds of the food on your plate and the beer or wine in your glass exists because our farmers have access to safe, modern crop protection products. Without crop protection, up to 80 per cent of the globe's crops could be lost to weeds, pests and diseases.

Continued judicious use of agricultural chemicals ensures Australian farmers, environmental land managers and councils can effectively control pests, weeds and diseases. In turn, the community enjoys safe, abundant, disease-free and affordable food, pristine natural environments and parks free from invasive weeds, and safe roadsides with visible signage.

CropLife AUSTRALIA

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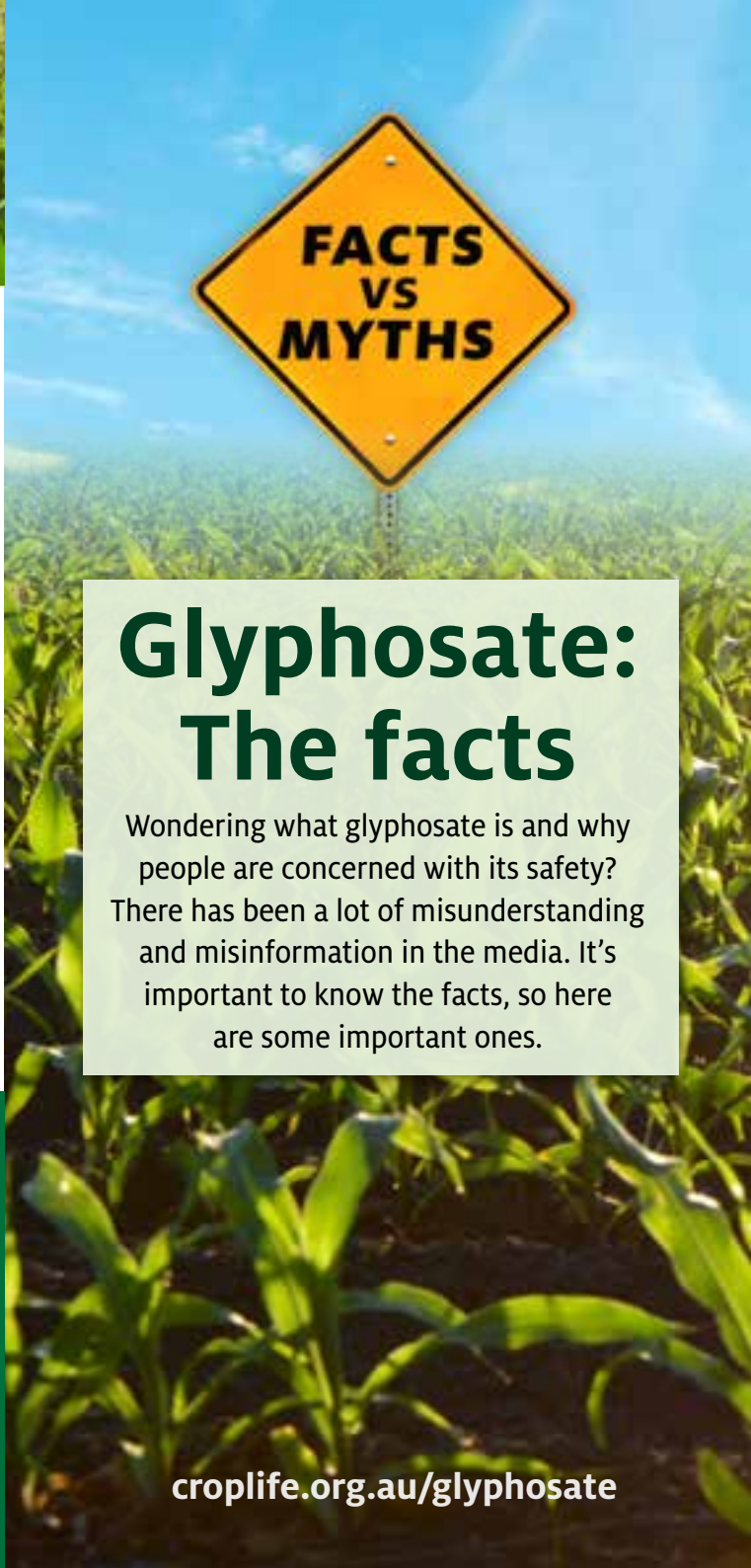
*Representing **the best** of the plant science industry*



Glyphosate: The facts

Wondering what glyphosate is and why people are concerned with its safety? There has been a lot of misunderstanding and misinformation in the media. It's important to know the facts, so here are some important ones.

croplife.org.au/glyphosate

Glyphosate: The facts

Q What is glyphosate?

Glyphosate is the most widely used herbicide in the world. It is independently recognised as one of the safest and most effective herbicides ever developed. There are many products containing glyphosate registered for use in Australia, from home gardens through to commercial farms.

"EPA continues to find that there are no risks to public health when glyphosate is used in accordance with its current label and that glyphosate is not a carcinogen."

US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)

Q Should I be concerned about the toxicity of glyphosate?

Glyphosate is less toxic than table salt. Independent scientific analysis confirms glyphosate-based products are safe. More than 800 scientific studies and independent safety assessments by the world's most respected regulators support the fact that use of glyphosate-based products does not cause cancer.

"Glyphosate does not pose a cancer risk to humans when used in accordance with the label instructions."

AUSTRALIAN PESTICIDES AND VETERINARY MEDICINES AUTHORITY (APVMA)

Q Haven't US court cases proven a link between glyphosate and cancer?

No, the recent California civil litigation cases have been decided by juries—not on the basis of scientific assessment.

The US Agricultural Health Study has been running since 1993 looking specifically at the risk between glyphosate exposure and non-Hodgkin lymphoma. In that time investigators from the National Cancer Institute, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health have comprehensively analysed data from over 89,000 farmers and their spouses. They have found no association between glyphosate and non-Hodgkin lymphoma — regardless of the exposure level.

"The evidence for carcinogenicity of a good curry or a cup of coffee and a ham sandwich is much stronger than that for glyphosate."

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR ANDREW BARTHOLOMAEUS, UNIVERSITY OF CANBERRA

Q How can I use glyphosate safely?

All chemical products, including home cleaning products used daily, have instructions for safe and correct use on the label. To ensure the safe use of chemical products, including glyphosate-based herbicides, always read the label and use as directed.

Q How can I be sure glyphosate is safe?

Australia's agricultural chemical industry is regulated to the same extent as human pharmaceuticals.

Before any agricultural chemical product can be sold or manufactured in Australia, it goes through rigorous scientific assessment by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA). They assess the safety and expected use of the product. In 2016 the APVMA examined glyphosate, following IARC's classification, and found there were no grounds for its approved uses to be reconsidered.

Every independent, science-based regulatory agency globally (including; Germany, New Zealand, Canada, the US, Japan and the European Union) has comprehensively evaluated glyphosate and found it safe to use.

"Residues in food are so low for all chemicals and glyphosate too, that there is no cancer risk."

PROFESSOR BERNARD STEWART, SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR, CANCER COUNCIL AUSTRALIA

Q Isn't glyphosate bad for the environment?

Glyphosate, like all crop protection and weed management products, plays a critical role in environmentally sustainable land management practices.

The application of glyphosate eradicates pests without having to disturb the soil and disrupt the weed's roots via tillage. It is scientifically proven that conservation tillage, enabled by glyphosate, can reduce soil erosion by up to 90 per cent, significantly improve water retention and increase or maintain carbon storage.