

# Statement

## Glyphosate

---

Brussels, **September 2016**

BFA conducts each year specific inspections for the presence of all undesirable substances and products in feed. Glyphosate is also part of this monitoring.

### What is glyphosate?

---

Glyphosate is an active ingredient used for the production of pesticides. Monsanto, the leading manufacturer thereof, released the product already in the 70s under the name *Roundup*. Meanwhile, glyphosate has become one of the most commonly used (total)herbicide across the world.

### How does Europe stand against glyphosate?

---

It is important to mention that it's not Europe who decides on whether or not to market pesticides, but the Member States themselves. Each time an active substance is (re)validated on a European level, each individual Member State performs a risk assessment of this pesticide. Only then will the use of the pesticide be approved/prohibited/restricted. Read more about this in the [Fact Sheet Glyphosate](#) of the European Commission.

The European Member States want to restrict the use of these chemical herbicides to a minimum. Thusly, the licence of glyphosate was extended in June 2016 for a period of only 18 months (instead of 15 years). Meanwhile, the [European Agency for Chemical Compounds](#) (ECHA) is working on an advice on the risks of glyphosate on public health.

The conditions for the approval of glyphosate were established in August 2016 within the [Decree \(EU\) 2016/1313 of the Commission of August 1, 2016](#) (amended Decree (EU) nr. 540/2011). It stipulates that glyphosate may only be used as a herbicide. The Member States should:

- Pay particular attention to the protection of ground water in vulnerable areas
- Limit the use of glyphosate to a minimum or prohibit the use thereof in places such as parks, public gardens, sports and recreational terrains, school terrains and playgrounds and in areas near healthcare facilities
- Ensure that the use of crop protection products for the harvesting is in compliance with the good agricultural practices.

## Targeted inspections from BFA

---

In 2003, BFA drafted a full sectoral sampling plan in order to guarantee high-quality feed. The basis of the plan is formed by the in-depth risk analysis of all raw materials and additives used within the feed industry. This plan is also approved annually by the Federal Food Agency (FAVV) and by the Scientific Committee of the FAVV. BFA also performs an assessment of the risk analysis every 3 months, and adapts this if necessary.

Pesticides are also part of this monitoring. In this way, over 280 analyses are performed, good for a screening of 537 parameters. Since 2015, glyphosate has been added to the list of pesticides. To start with, 11 analyses have been performed on (raw) soy beans and soy hulls. Note that the number of analyses is calculated according to the declared annual tonnage ( $\pm 150.000T$  in Belgium).

Only 4 results showed traces of glyphosate. The highest value measured for glyphosate was 00.44 mg/kg, while the maximum value allowed is 20 mg/kg. To date, **not a single violation of the maximum standard has been identified**. BFA continues to monitor the results closely.

Do you wish to receive more information on BFA's sampling plan? Let us know at [info@bfa.be](mailto:info@bfa.be). The results are also always available on [www.bfa.be](http://www.bfa.be), under the header [Sectoral overview](#).

BFA, de Beroepsvereniging van Mengvoederfabrikanten in België, telt 160 leden. Samen vertegenwoordigen zij 94% van de nationale productie. De sector stelt 3.600 personen te werk. Met een nationale productie van 7 miljoen ton en een omzet van 2,5 miljard euro is de mengvoederindustrie de belangrijkste toeleverancier van productiemiddelen voor de landbouw.