

Statement

Glyphosate

Brussels, January 2018

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 December 2017 for a period of 5 years.

The conditions for the approval of glyphosate were established in December 2017 within the [Decree \(EU\) 2017/2324 of the Commission of 12 December 2017](#) (amended Decree (EU) n° 540/2011). It stipulates that glyphosate may only be used as a herbicide.

The Member States should:

- the protection of the groundwater in vulnerable areas, in particular with respect to non-crop uses,
- the protection of operators and amateur users,
- the risk to terrestrial vertebrates and non-target terrestrial plants,

- the risk to diversity and abundance of non-target terrestrial arthropods and vertebrates via trophic interactions,
- compliance of pre-harvest uses with 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 334 analyses are performed, good for a screening of 537 parameters. Since 2015, glyphosate has been added to the list of pesticides. Yearly analyses have been performed on (raw) soy beans and hulls. Note that the number of analyses is calculated according to the declared annual tonnage (\pm 150.000T in Belgium) and the number of analysis that are representative for consumed raw materials.

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 daily.

Do you wish to receive more information on BFA's sampling plan? Let us know at info@b-f-a.be. The results of the monitoring plan are also always available on www.b-f-a.be, under the header [Sectoral overview](#).

BFA (Belgian Feed Association), the former BEMEFA, has about 160 members. Together they represent 92% of the national production. The sector employs 3.600 people. With a national production of 7 million tons and a turnover of 2,5 billion euros, the compound feed industry is the most important supplier of agricultural production resources.