

# USDA Drops Glyphosate Testing Plans, Makes Monsanto's Life Easier

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is no longer planning to test samples of corn syrup for glyphosate residue. Plans to test for the herbicide were coordinated between the USDA and the Environmental Protection Agency and scheduled to begin in April of this year.

The cancellation of this program is good news for Monsanto. The company is currently embroiled in litigation, with plaintiffs in the case alleging that Roundup caused non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. The extent of the EPA's involvement in the lawsuit is not known, although the federal judge presiding over the case has indicated he is likely to subpoena the chair of the EPA's Cancer Assessment Review Committee. Regardless of the lawsuit, the decision by the USDA to drop scheduled glyphosate testing is disheartening and further erodes their food integrity credibility.

## Agencies in Disarray

The USDA's failure to properly test for glyphosate residue is baffling. The agency's reasons for not testing for the world's most used pesticide center around that process being too expensive and inefficient. If that argument sounds familiar, that's because it echoes Monsanto's own thoughts on glyphosate tests. The Food and Drug Administration doesn't necessarily agree. Last year they set in motion a testing program that found glyphosate in every sample of honey tested. Launched in February, it was indefinitely suspended by November.

# When Demand Isn't Enough

Europe and Canada have glyphosate testing programs in place, with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency planning to release their findings in the near future. This is the most used herbicide in the world, with over 250 million pounds of it used in the U.S. every year. Any layperson looking for it has only to walk into the nearest supermarket, restaurant, or convenience store. But we don't know for sure, although we definitely want to.

The entire motivation behind the FDA's short-lived was public demand. The American public and the U.S Government Accountability Office both have issues with the current ill-advised and unsustainable system. For a brief, shining period the USDA got it. The taxpayer need and demand for testing didn't change. So what did?

## Related Reading:

- *The Difference Between Heirlooms, Hybrids, and GMOs*
- *Understanding and Detoxifying Genetically Modified Foods*
- *Detox Cheap and Easy Without Fasting – Recipes Included*
- *Holistic Guide to Healing the Endocrine System and Balancing Our Hormones*
- *How to Start a Vegetable Garden – How to Grow Vegetables*

## Sources:

- *USDA Drops Plan To Test For Monsanto Weed Killer In Food* – Huffington Post
- *FDA Finds Monsanto's Weed Killer In U.S. Honey* – Huffington Post
- *CFIA Report to Weigh in on Glyphosate Debate* – The Western Producer
- *Lawsuit Alleges that Monsanto influenced the EPA's Classification of Glyphosate* – Organic Lifestyle Magazine