

Recent Glyphosate Monitoring Consistent with Previously Reported Data

For more than a decade, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) has monitored levels of glyphosate in surface waters in the midwest United States. In late August, USGS [announced](#) its most recent data has been published in two technical journals. These studies report detecting glyphosate and AMPA, a glyphosate metabolite, in particular agricultural areas in the Mississippi River basin. The levels reported are consistent with previously reported data and modeling.

Stakeholders have asked Monsanto about these studies. Monsanto environmental and ecological experts have reviewed the USGS studies and a summary of their assessment follows:

- Levels of glyphosate and AMPA reported in surface water, air and rainwater are far below levels which would raise ecological or human health concerns. For example, the levels reported in surface water and rainwater are far below the U.S. EPA's drinking water standard for glyphosate – a level at which EPA has determined there will be “no known or anticipated adverse effects on the health of persons,” with “an adequate margin of safety.”¹
- Governmental determinations regarding safe levels of glyphosate are based on an extensive toxicological database. Glyphosate is one of the most comprehensively-studied herbicides in the world. Both acute and chronic studies have been conducted for humans and wildlife, and comprehensive toxicological studies in animals have demonstrated that glyphosate does not cause cancer, birth defects, mutagenic effects, nervous system effects or reproductive problems.
- Levels of glyphosate and AMPA reported in surface waters are not new. The USGS has been reporting these data since 2001, and these latest data are consistent with previously reported data and earlier modeling.
- Glyphosate and AMPA bind to soil particles. It is expected that mobilization of dust will result in small atmospheric concentrations of glyphosate and AMPA in/on dust, which are then removed from the atmosphere by rainfall.

For detailed glyphosate technical and safety information, click [here](#).

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¹

See Safe Drinking Water Act § 1412(b)(4).