

# What is glyphosate?

Glyphosate is an herbicide that can be used by farmers to eliminate weeds. Weeds compete with crops for water, sunlight, and other nutrients. Glyphosate-based herbicides are used by farmers because they are effective, nontoxic and safe. This helps farmers control their weeds without having to till their fields – conserving soil health, reducing their carbon footprint and growing more food on less land.



## Myth 1

### HIGH LEVELS OF GLYPHOSATE ARE FOUND IN OUR FOOD

**Fact:** High levels of glyphosate have never been found in grain-based foods. Sometimes trace levels of chemicals are found, but in fact, they are microscopic, represented by parts per billion (ppb). To put that into perspective, that is 1 penny out of \$10 million! All health regulation agencies have said that there is no danger from microscopic residues.

## Myth 2

### GLYPHOSATE CAUSES CANCER

**Fact:** Currently, no major pesticide regulatory authority in the world considers glyphosate to be a carcinogenic risk to humans. Some of these bodies include Health Canada, Canada's Pesticide Management Regulatory Agency, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), the Joint Meeting on Pesticide Residue (JMPR), Australia's Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority, the United States Environmental Protection Agency and USEPA's Scientific Advisory Panel.

Many of these agencies independently concluded the science remains true – glyphosate is safe and does not pose a risk to human health if used correctly.

## Myth 3

### GLYPHOSATE IS TOXIC AND UNSAFE FOR USE

**Fact:** Glyphosate has been used for 40 years with decades of safe use recorded. International regulatory bodies have all concluded that glyphosate does not pose a threat to humans or the environment if used correctly.

Farmers in Ontario must be trained and certified to buy and apply pesticides, including glyphosate. They are even trained on how much pesticide to apply to the fields. The amount may surprise you! Only one cup of pesticide is applied to the equivalent of 2.5 hockey rinks of cropland, after it has been diluted into approximately 45 litres of water.

#### Resources:

Frequently Asked Questions on the Re-evaluation of Glyphosate, Government of Canada.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/consumer-product-safety/reports-publications/pesticides-pest-management/fact-sheets-other-resources/request-special-review-glyphosate-herbicides-containing-polyethoxylated-tallowamine/frequently-asked-questions.html>

Re-evaluation Decision RVD2017-01, Glyphosate, Government of Canada.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/consumer-product-safety/reports-publications/pesticides-pest-management/decisions-updates/registration-decision/2017/glyphosate-rvd-2017-01.html>



[www.GoodinEveryGrain.ca](http://www.GoodinEveryGrain.ca)

# To put it in perspective

1 part per million (ppm)  
is roughly:



1 penny in...

**\$10,000**



1 part per billion (ppb)  
is roughly:



1 penny in...

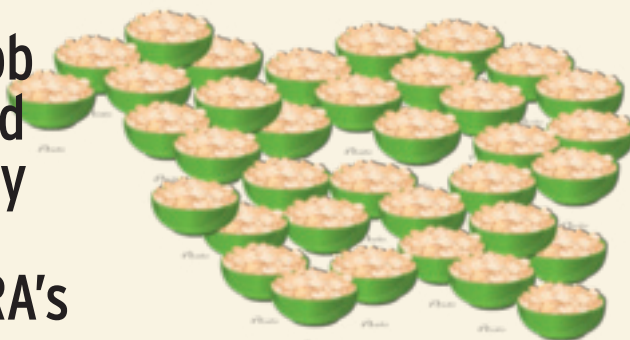
**\$10 million**



If 1 tortilla has 744 ppb of a chemical, you would need to eat 28 kg or 430 tortillas every day for the rest of your life to reach PMRA's exposure limit, which is set much lower than proven risk limits.



If 1 bowl of cereal has 577 ppb of a chemical, you would need to eat 36 kg or 54 bowls every hour for the rest of your life (without sleep) to reach PMRA's exposure limit.



Be a skeptic: Many things were categorized as probable carcinogens, like very hot beverages, or those over 65° C.



Coffee is brewed between 91° C and 96° C.