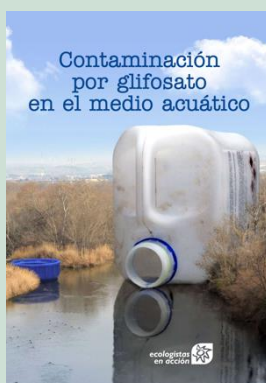




## Pesticide newsletter

Nº6 - December 2021

### Civil Society Activities



#### **Spain: High presence of glyphosate in surface and ground water**

The environmental organization *Ecologistas en Acción*, partner of Justice Pesticides, releases a [survey](#) that analyzes data from basin agencies from 2015 to 2019. The analyses confirm the high presence of glyphosate in surface and groundwater in Spain. The latter is considered a potential carcinogen by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) of the World Health Organization (WHO). The data was provided by the Ministry of Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge (Miterd), in response to an environmental petition formulated by the NGO.

The presence of glyphosate was detected in 31% of surface water samples, a percentage that rises to 42% for its metabolite AMPA. For groundwater, both substances were detected in 11% and 0.3% of samples. Even more worrying, in some cases, the concentration of glyphosate is hundreds of times higher than the legal limit values.

According to the association, these data highlight "the shortcomings of European and Spanish legislation and the need for legislation to establish environmental quality standards in surface waters for glyphosate and its degradation metabolites."

For Ecologistas en Acción, it is essential that the State and regional administrations act to reduce the contamination of this pesticide in the aquatic environment from its source, ie avoiding diffuse contamination of agricultural origin. Therefore, the association asks the Ministry of Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food to:

- Withdraw the marketing authorization for pesticides containing glyphosate.
- Develop harmonized standards for pesticide sampling and analysis that are mandatory for watershed managers.
- Ensure that the collection of information on pesticide use by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is comprehensive, disaggregated by territory and, in turn, serves as a starting point for protecting rivers and groundwater, the environment and people from contamination by glyphosate and its degradative metabolites.
- Harmonize the number of sampling points in surface and groundwater between the different river confederations.
- Promote measures to control the quality of groundwater in order to align them, at least, with the (insufficient) measures implemented in surface waters.

Read the [report](#) (in Spanish)

[Back to Justice Pesticides website](#)