



Newsletter about Pesticides

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Legislative and regulatory News



Brazil: The "Poison Law" adopted by the National Assembly

The Brazilian deputies approved [bill 6.299/2002](#) on the use of pesticides, nicknamed the "[Poison Package](#)", providing provisions for research, experimentation, production, packaging and labeling, transport, storage, marketing, use, import, export, final destination of waste and packaging, registration, classification, control and inspection of pesticides, environmental control products and similar products on February 9, 2022.

Instead of being previously reviewed by the scientists of the Health Vigilance Agency (Anvisa) and an agency of the Ministry of the Environment (Ibama),

[applications for authorization of pesticides](#) will now be processed directly by the Ministry of Agriculture alone.

In addition, if an authorization for a new product has not been granted within two years, the pesticide will automatically receive a temporary authorization, if it is used in at least three OECD countries.

The bill further relaxes the rules for the distribution of pesticides in the country, which were already extremely lax. It facilitates the opening of the market to new pesticides that were previously banned. It does not explicitly mention the ban on carcinogens any more, as it did in the previous text. It merely refers vaguely to an unacceptable risk to humans or the environment.

The Bolsonaro government, supported in Congress by the "*bancada ruralista*", the agricultural trade lobby, has broken records in the release of pesticides for use by agribusiness. In 2021 alone, 585 products were authorized, according to data from the Ministry of Agriculture, compared to 493 in 2020 and 475 in 2019.

[Supporters](#) say the pesticide authorization procedure will be less bureaucratic and faster and will modernize the country's agriculture. According to its critics, it will result in putting even more poison on the plates of Brazilians, while Brazil is the country that already consumes the most pesticides in the world.

Despite the seriousness of the decision and the demonstrations of anti-pesticide activists in front of the congress, some of whom were even [imprisoned](#), the deputies approved the "poison law" by 301 votes to 150 in less than four hours of discussion. It must now be passed by the Senate, which is also largely dominated by the *bancada ruralista* and unfortunately is not expected to obstruct it.

If you've made it this far, can you make one more tiny effort?

Justice Pesticides needs your help to continue this work of investigation and information to support victims of pesticides.

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