

Official Information Act Request

Requester's details

Date: 25 July 2025

Name: Jon Muller

Organisation: GE Free NZ

Email: jonm123@me.com

Reference number: ENQ-49556-X6Q2B8

Tēnā koe Jon

I refer to your request received on 4 July 2024:

1. Please explain why these findings do not also apply to human ingestion?

We refer to the Residue Data for Agricultural Chemical Registration ((RDACR2) and ask

2. Please may we have the Glyphosate-based Herbicide documents on the residue trial data trials on cereal grains and pulses (RDACR 7.4, p.15/17).

The MPI RDACR document refers to residues for animal ingestion not humans.

3. Please can we have the relevant data trials on the safety for human residues for the cereal grains, field peas and pulses
4. Please may we have the data studies that explain why glyphosate is more toxic in field peas (6mg/kg) than cereal grains (10mg/kg)?

We have been told that glyphosate is used preharvest on cereal grains, field peas and pulses and it is not allowed to be used as a desiccant as it is off label.

5. Please can you advise us what weeds is the spray used on?
6. What this action does to raise glyphosate levels as it had desiccant properties that raise the residue levels?

On 10 July 2025, we advised you that the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) does not hold part of the information you have requested. Questions 2-6 of your request were transferred to Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) under section 14(b)(i) of the Official Information Act 1982.

The information you have requested follows.

1. Please explain why these findings do not also apply to human ingestion?

The EPA is responsible for approving glyphosate and glyphosate-containing substances. Typically, animal studies are used in chemical risk assessments to derive safe limits for humans by different exposure routes - oral, dermal and inhalation. However, the study highlighted is very new and has not yet been reviewed for use in risk assessment. The EPA does not make decisions about maximum residue limits (MRL) in foods. This decision will sit with MPI.

A useful summary can be found online here: [Glyphosate rules and regulation | EPA](#).

I hope this information is helpful. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision under section 28(3) of the OIA. You can contact the Ombudsman on 0800 802 602, or by email at info@ombudsman.parliament.nz

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us via ministerials@epa.govt.nz

We may publish your request and our response on our website, www.epa.govt.nz. We make OIA responses available so others can read more about the work we do and the questions we are asked. Any information that might identify you will be removed to protect your privacy.

Nāku noa nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris Hill".

Dr Christopher Hill

General Manager, Hazardous Substances and New Organisms