



New Glyphosate* Cancer-Link Warnings for Homeowners (*Bronco, Rodeo, Round-Up, Glifonox and many other common weed-killers) Ancram Conservation Advisory Council August 2015

International Agency for Research on Cancer



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There is mounting scientific evidence that Glyphosate (the active compound in many common weed killers) probably causes cancer in humans, as well as long term damage to wildlife and soils, and persists in soil, water and air contrary to prior reports.

Glyphosate is the active ingredient in many commonly available weed killers. It has been approved by the US EPA for use in home gardens and farms. Glyphosate kills all plants on which it is sprayed. Glyphosate is found in various weed killers, including Roundup, Bronco, Glifonox, Kleen-up, Rodeo and Weedoff.

The World Health Organization (WHO) International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) released a statement on March 20, 2015 reporting that:

Glyphosate is probably carcinogenic to humans
(IARC WHO Monographs Volume 112: 3/20/15).

The recent WHO statement is based on strong evidence from a series of scientifically rigorous research papers including those cited in a summary of the IARC report published in *The Lancet Oncology* (Published online March 20, 2015 [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S1470-2045\(15\)70134-8](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S1470-2045(15)70134-8)), and from independent authors demonstrating toxicity, carcinogenicity and environmental damage and persistence contrary to prior claims, (e.g., *Ecotoxicology*. Mar 2013; 22(2): 251–262; *Current Microbiology* 66:350-358, 2013). Glyphosate, for example, was found to induce human breast cancer cell growth (*Food Chem Toxicol.* 59:129-36, 2013). Glyphosate has been found residually in the air, water and soil of areas where it is routinely used and has been measured in the urine and breast milk of humans in a pilot study made possible by Moms Across America in 2014. All of these documents are available on-line (some journals require free registration).

What does this mean for home use of Glyphosate?

In addition to home use for weed control, Glyphosate is widely used on farmland and landscapes in Ancram and surrounding areas so there is already a heavy environmental load of Glyphosate in our area.

Therefore it is best to avoid using it at home - use alternatives like those suggested below.

Test your well water for contamination with Glyphosate. by sending water samples to Microbe Inotech Laboratory - an independent lab willing to test for organophosphates like Glyphosate for a standard fee: 800-688-9144. www.microbeinotech.com.

Alternative Home Weed Control Methods:

Vinegar: Use full strength white vinegar (10-20% acetic acid) in a spray bottle and spray to cover entire plant. The higher the percentage of acetic acid the more effective it will be. Vinegar will kill all plants so avoid spraying desirable plants. Wear goggles to protect your eyes.

Salt solution: For driveways, gravel areas, and other paved surfaces, use concentrated salt solutions with any regular sprayer and spray to cover entire plant. You can also douse the root area of unwanted plants. Do not use this on garden or lawn areas as the salt will be somewhat residual and will kill all plants.

Corn gluten: Numerous commercial preparations of corn gluten are available for broad leaf weed control on lawns. Follow provided instructions for use. Be aware that these may be made from GMO corn so may contain Glyphosate residues.

Boiling water: Pour freshly boiled water to cover over the entire plant and include the root area. Be careful not to splash yourself, pets or children to avoid burning yourself. Boiling water kills all plants so avoid splashing desirable plants.



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What's the Evidence?

Literature cited:

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