



What's in Your Lunch?

Canadians want to hear from the experts on the topic of glyphosate in our food

A report was recently released in Canada announcing that common foods such as cereals and cookies contain residues of the chemical glyphosate. Also known by the name Roundup, glyphosate is used to kill weeds in crop fields.

Best Food Facts has asked experts over the past two years to answer a number of questions on this topic, as a similar report was previously released in the United States.

What the Experts Have to Say

“Glyphosate continues to be widely used because few, if any other herbicides, are as safe, effective, and economical. By safe, I mean safer than table salt.”

Dr. Wayne Parrott, PhD, and William Vencill, PhD, both Professors in the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences at the University of Georgia

For more information, [read here](#).

“They’ve all [pesticides] gone through extensive testing, but they are a pesticide. They are designed to kill living organisms. If they aren’t used properly, they are not safe. But that said, if products are used according to the label, the benefits far outweigh the costs, and this is true of all chemicals and pesticides, not just ones created with GMO technology”.

Jeff Graybill, MS, CCA, Agronomy Extension Education at Penn State University

For more from Jeff, [click here](#).

“Commercial supplies of wheat grain are subject to government regulations extending from the farm to the storage facilities and into the bakery. This intense level of scrutiny is intended to give us, as consumers, the confidence we need to enjoy, and not to avoid, one of nature’s treasured grains. Avoidance is advised only in the case of a known medical condition linked to digestibility”

Dr. Brett Carver, PhD, Wheat Breeding & Genetics, Regents Professor and Wheat Genetics Chair in Agriculture, Dr. Angela Post, PhD, Weed Science Extension, Assistant Professor, and

Dr. Jeff Edwards, Small Grains Extension, Warth Distinguished Professor of Agronomy, all Professors from Oklahoma State University

For more information, [click here](#).

“Everything is made of chemicals. You and I are walking, talking bags of bio-chemical reactions. If one assumes ‘chemical-free’ means without pesticides it is still impossible”.

“The Canadian food system utilizes modern agriculture techniques to provide safe, affordable and an abundant food supply to Canadians and other countries around the world.”

Robert Wager, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Faculty at Vancouver Island University

For more information, [read here](#).



Glyphosate Regulation in Canada

[Health Canada – Pesticides and Food](#)

[Canadian Food Inspection Agency – Safeguarding with Science](#)

- The Canadian Food Inspection Agency reports that over the last 10 years, residue data shows that the compliance rate is consistently very high for fresh fruits and vegetables.

For example, in 2015/2016 CFIA's Glyphosate Testing Revealed:

- 98.7% of grain products tested were well below Canada's maximum residue limits.
 - No samples of fruits, and vegetables, soy products or infant foods were found to contain residues exceeding Canadian limits.
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- Before any pesticide can be registered in Canada, Health Canada must review the scientific information to make sure that it has value and there are no health or environmental concerns related to its use.
 - Health and environmental risks are considered acceptable if there is reasonable certainty that no harm to human health, future generations or the environment will result from exposure to or use of the pesticide, based on its conditions or proposed conditions of registration.

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