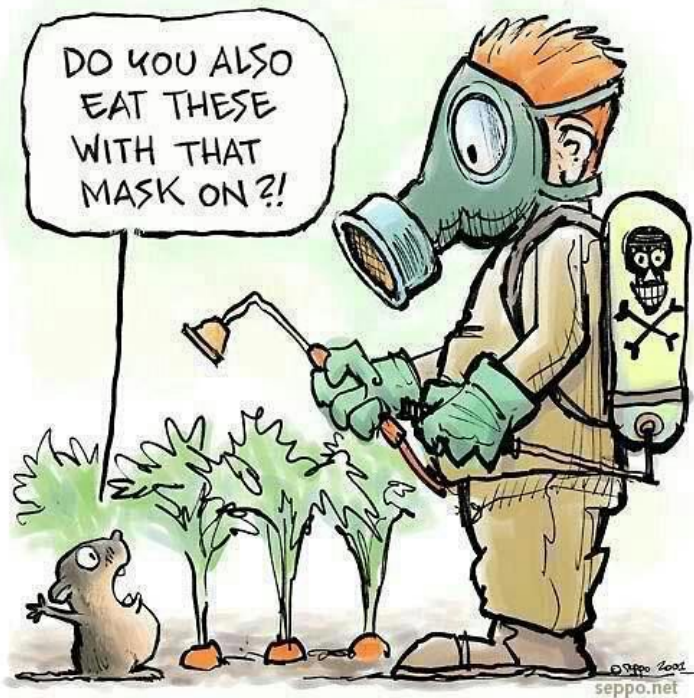


# STUDY: Long-term health risks of Monsanto's Roundup revealed

By Organic Consumers Association

22 January 2018



(Cartoon by Seppo Leinonen / seppo.net)

***It has been known for some time that Monsanto's Roundup weedkiller damages healthy soil, but new research suggests that it may alter the human microbiome, leaving us vulnerable to disease.***

WE ARE ONLY BEGINNING to learn the importance of healthy gut bacteria to our overall health — and the relationship between healthy soil and the human [microbiome](#).

We know that the human microbiome – often referred to as our “[second brain](#)” – plays a [key role](#) in our health, from helping us digest the food we

eat, to boosting our brain function and regulating our immune systems.

Similar to animals, plants and soil, our bodies contain trillions of microbes — microscopic living organisms, such as bacteria, fungi and protozoa. The microbes in each person's body are unique, but not random. They [colonise](#) in the body, beginning from birth, depending on the microbes passed on by the mother. Over our lifetimes, they evolve according to our unique exposure to the outside world in order to protect us from [diseases](#), such as cancer, diabetes and even autism.

What happens when our microbial community is disturbed? New research suggests that exposure to environmental toxins, such as pesticides, may alter the human microbiome, leaving us more vulnerable to sickness and disease.

Read this outstanding report on the impact of glyphosate on soil health.

[#BanGlyphosate](#) <https://t.co/Afpngi0m8z>  
[pic.twitter.com/79Ay72TC3Y](https://pic.twitter.com/79Ay72TC3Y)

— IL Right to Know GMO (@IRTKGMO)  
[July 3, 2016](#)

A second new study suggests that the most widely used herbicide on the planet – [Monsanto's Roundup](#) weedkiller – could be causing more damage to our gut microbiome and overall health than we thought. Not only does the weedkiller contain [glyphosate](#) but in its complete

formulation, it also contains toxic levels of heavy metals, including arsenic.

## **Glyphosate and its unintended effects**

A new study shows that Monsanto's Roundup weedkiller, which we already know [damages healthy soil](#) microbial activity, also damages the gut microbiome of rats.

The [study](#), published by [Professor Gilles-Eric Séralini](#) at the [University of Caen](#), raises new alarms about glyphosate — the most widely used herbicide in the world, despite [mountains of research](#) pointing to the weedkiller's damaging impacts on human and environmental health.

Republished study: long-term toxicity of a Roundup herbicide and a Roundup-tolerant genetically modified maize | <https://t.co/FvXFroD2ud>

— FoodSovereigntyGhana (@FoodSovereignGH) [June 19, 2016](#)

Glyphosate, the key active ingredient in Roundup, is destructive to the environment. A recent [article by GM Watch](#) details the editor of [No-Till Farmer](#) — a magazine that advocates for the use of GM crops and glyphosate herbicides in no-till systems — is changing his thinking.

[John Dobberstein](#), *No-Till Farmer's* senior editor, recently [wrote](#) that *'there may be trouble on the horizon for glyphosate'*, citing research showing that glyphosate lingers in the soil — and in high amounts — long after it has been applied.

Citing other researchers, including [Robert Kremer](#) — a retired research microbiologist with the [USDA-Agricultural Research Service](#) and adjunct professor at the [University of Missouri](#) — Dobberstein [wrote](#) that glyphosate quietly lingers in soil years after it's been sprayed, damaging non-target crops and suppressing beneficial [mycorrhizal fungi](#), which help plants obtain nutrients from the soil while offering protection against disease.

Dobberstein wrote, as [reported by GM Watch](#), that the herbicide also harms beneficial soil organisms such as small insects and earthworms, while leaving behind chemical residues that wind up in our waterways,

The latest Hella Delicious Roundup! <https://t.co/vS7YQx8mVq>  
Thanks to [@Katbeloo](#) [@MADGEAustralia](#) [@CompromisedNGOs](#) [#contentmarketing](#) [#health](#)

— Hella Delicious (@helladelicious) [January 20, 2018](#)

## **Microbes prove their value in humans**

While some microbes cause disease, the majority of them assist us with everyday processes, such as digesting food and keeping harmful bacteria at bay.

According to [an article](#) published this month by [Mercola](#), 70 to 80 per cent of your immune function

resides within your gastrointestinal tract, or “gut”. The article states that poor gut health is associated with autism, behavioural disorders, diabetes, gene expression and obesity.

If, as [this recent article](#) in *The Atlantic* claims, that the 'microbial community in the ground is as important as the one in our guts', then the new Séralini study doesn't bode well for us humans, especially if we keep dousing the world's soils with glyphosate and consuming [glyphosate-contaminated foods](#).

Healthy Soil  
Microbes, Healthy  
People  
[https://t.co/OwCBk  
W1jks](https://t.co/OwCBkW1jks)

— SSF-BERF-  
DEFM (@SSF\_BER  
F\_DEFM) [October  
16, 2017](#)

### **Arsenic and old Monsanto**

As if there aren't enough reasons to be worried about glyphosate, one more reason emerged last week when scientists [reported](#) that glyphosate-based herbicides, including Roundup, contain toxic levels of heavy

metals including arsenic.

Glyphosate, the active ingredient in Roundup has been the subject of intense scrutiny and controversy. [Documents](#) recently made public as a result of multiple lawsuits filed against Monsanto by people who blame exposure to Roundup for their [non-Hodgkin lymphoma](#) suggest Monsanto has known for decades about the health risks related to glyphosate.

Some countries have [banned](#) its use.

But, as the authors of this latest study point out, glyphosate is not the only ingredient in herbicides like Roundup — it's one of multiple ingredients. Those other ingredients make glyphosate-based herbicides even more dangerous than we thought and should lead to a global ban on all glyphosate-based herbicides.

We will see  
them come

to their  
knees soon.

New Claims  
Against  
Monsanto In  
Consumer  
Lawsuit Over  
Roundup  
Herbicide  
<https://t.co/h7Osl7yyev>

Plaintiffs in  
U.S. lawsuit  
say  
Monsanto  
ghostwrote  
Roundup  
studies  
<https://t.co/jQLyyBonVL>

—  
Sheeple101  
(@Sheeple101)  
[November 23, 2017](#)

[According to Professor Séralini:](#)

*These results show that the declarations of glyphosate as the active principle for toxicity are scient*

*ifically wrong and that the toxicity assessment is also erroneous: glyphosate is tested alone for long-term health effects at regulatory level but the formulants – which are composed of toxic petroleum residues and arsenic – are not tested over the long term. We call for the immediate transparent and public release of the formulations and above all of any health tests conducted on them. The acceptable levels of glyphosate residues in food and drinks should be divided immediately by a factor of at least 1,000 because of these hidden poisons. Glyphosate-based herbicides should be banned.*

Will the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) agree? And follow the lead of countries like [France](#) and [Germany](#) that have proposed countrywide bans on glyphosate?

We can only hope.

Five countries have banned [#glyphosate](#) in the wake of recent l

awsu  
it  
s.  
<https://t.co/9KcUNas5Xe#MonsantoRoundup>

— H  
ealth  
Rang  
er (  
@He  
althR  
ange  
r)  
[October 20, 2017](#)

[Julie Wilson](#) is  
communication  
associate  
for  
the  
Organic Consumers  
Association (O

[CA\)](#)  
. This  
article

[originally published on Organic Consumers Association.](#)

[Original cartoon courtesy of Seppe Leino](#)  
—

[seppo.net.](#)

