

## USER SAFETY

*“It is a violation of Federal law to use this product in a manner inconsistent with its labeling.”*

**After** mandatory pesticide training to obtain an applicator’s license, wheat growers follow EPA approved label directions when applying any type of crop protection material.

In fact, when applying any form of pesticide, all farmers must follow a safety instructions established by the federal government and their state government.

For a complete set of user safety instructions, visit <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-worker-safety>.



## WHAT IS GLYPHOSATE?

Glyphosate is the active ingredient in many “non-selective” herbicide formulations, used to control weeds. Non-selective herbicides control most plants, while selective herbicides are designed to control specific types of plants.

Farmers apply non-selective herbicides before crop planting and after harvest. Most farmers choose glyphosate-based herbicides because they are a simple, cost-effective, and safe way of controlling many types of weeds.

Glyphosate-based products are also popular outside of agriculture, too. They are commonly used to control weeds in gardens and around lawns.

*DID YOU KNOW that on May 1, 2018, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) released a study reconfirming that there is no “significant associations with glyphosate use and cancer.”*

Read the study here: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29136183>

## AUGUST 2018 GLYPHOSATE BEST PRACTICES FOR WHEAT



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# GLYPHOSATE

## WHY GROWERS USE

The United States is the only country that can supply all six classes of wheat in safe and reliable quantities at the highest quality.

However, every year brings a new set of environmental conditions, and a new set of stresses to affect the crop.

Glyphosate is one of the tools in the proverbial crop production “toolbox” that growers can use to combat these stresses.

It is cost-effective, safe, and is well known to have low toxicity across species, durations, life stages, and routes of exposure.

One example of its use is to combat volunteer wheat (a weed) which occurs under certain weather conditions and prior to the planting of a new crop. Volunteer wheat can harbor the wheat streak mosaic virus and the curl mite that spreads it.

Using glyphosate to prevent volunteer wheat from growing and infecting the new healthy crop is one management decision growers will make.

## HOW/WHEN TO USE

There are FOUR potential uses for glyphosate in wheat:

**Applications before planting, at planting, and after planting** but application before wheat emergence ensures minimal weed competition occurs throughout the growing season. This practice is most common in no-till cropping systems that protect against soil erosion.

**Fallow applications are made following harvest** when no crop is present to keep weeds from using precious soil moisture. This is most commonly practiced in the Western United States and semi-arid wheat producing regions.

**Pre-harvest applications** made after the wheat plant has stopped growing, when wheat kernel development is complete and the crop has matured. This application is prior to harvest and used to eliminate green weeds that can contaminate the harvest. This is an uncommon treatment used in less than 3 percent of all wheat acres in the U.S.

**“Crop destruct” applications** are made to a growing wheat crop when weeds, insects, disease or adverse weather preclude the ability to produce a viable crop. This, of course, results in no harvestable grain.

## IS IT REGULATED?

The process the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) uses for evaluating the potential for health and ecological effects of a pesticide (new and existing) is called risk assessment:

- New pesticides must be evaluated before they can enter the market.
- Existing pesticides must be re-evaluated periodically to ensure that they continue to meet the appropriate safety standard.

The EPA has evaluated glyphosate’s safety for over 40 years. The data and information support the conclusion that glyphosate DOES NOT CAUSE cancer in humans.

Additionally, regulatory bodies and scientific agencies across the globe have conducted science-based evaluations and concluded that glyphosate DOES NOT POSE an unreasonable health risk to humans, when used according to label.



[WWW.EPA.GOV/PESTICIDES](http://WWW.EPA.GOV/PESTICIDES)

