



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH AND CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Directorate E - Safety of the Food Chain
E3 - Chemicals, contaminants, pesticides

Brussels,
SANCO/E3/

Dear

Subject: POEA/tallowamines in glyphosate-containing plant protection products

Glyphosate was included into Annex I to Council Directive 91/414/EEC by Commission Directive 2001/99/EC. In Addenda to the Monograph dated 30 March 1999 and 16 October 2000, Germany as Rapporteur Member State recommended that "[...] formulations containing surfactants from the polyoxyethylated tallowamine subgroup of the polyoxyethylene alkyl amines (POEA) should be carefully evaluated on MS level since some of the substances belonging to this group, depending on the concentration, may exhibit irritating and cytotoxic properties."

My services initially contacted you by e-mail on 8 February 2013 to ascertain whether Germany plans to include an assessment of the tallow amine group of surfactants in the Draft Assessment Report within the renewal procedure for the active substance glyphosate.

I appreciate the positive response to our enquiry received on 11 February 2013. Given the properties of a number of substances of the tallow amine group as well as the attention they have received both in the scientific literature and in enquiries to the Commission, it appears justified to have an assessment of sufficient detail to enable risk managers to decide on any measures that may be necessary to address possible risks linked to the presence of tallow amines in plant protection products.

Therefore I would like to reiterate our initial request for an assessment of the toxicological properties of tallow amines in the context of the renewal procedure for glyphosate, and thank you for your efforts in this regard.

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My services remain at your disposal for further information. On this matter, you can contact [REDACTED] from the SANCO Pesticides sector.

Yours sincerely,



Cc (via mail): SANCO:

