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Monsanto CEO Says 'Roundup Is Not A Carcinogen' But 94 Scientists From Around the World Disagree

Lorraine Chow | April 4, 2016 2:05 pm | [Comments](#)3.5k
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Last week, [Monsanto](#) CEO [Hugh Grant](#) sat down with *Here & Now*'s Jeremy Hobson for a wide-ranging, two-part interview about everything Monsanto, from [genetically modified crops](#) and the future of agriculture, to the company's recent spate of [PCB lawsuits](#).



Glyphosate, the main ingredient in the Monsanto's flagship product Roundup, the most widely applied pesticide worldwide. Photo credit: [Flickr](#)

Both sections of the interview are definitely worth the listen for anyone interested in what the agrotech chief has to say about Monsanto's ongoing string of controversies—or as Hobson puts it—how “Monsanto has become the face of corporate evil in this country.”

One of the most interesting takeaways was Grant's insistence on the safety of [glyphosate](#), the world's most popular herbicide and the main ingredient in the Monsanto's flagship product, Roundup.

Last year, the controversial chemical was infamously [declared](#) a possible carcinogen by the World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), a point that Monsanto has vehemently denied and has demanded a [retraction](#).

Here's what Grant had to say to Hobson's question on this issue:

Hobson: People think your Roundup pesticide could be linked with cancer and other health problems. How do you respond to that?

Grant: Roundup is not a carcinogen. It's 40 years old, it's been studied; virtually every year of its life it's been under a review somewhere in the world by regulatory authorities. So Canada and Europe just finished. Europe finished their review last year and came back with glowing colors. The Canadians were the same and now we are going through a similar process in the U.S., so I've absolutely no concerns about the safety of the product.

As Grant said in the interview, both [Health Canada](#) and the [European Food Safety Authority](#) (EFSA) have rejected the IARC's findings. However, just last month, 94 scientists from around the world came out in defense of the IARC's original findings, as Dr. Doug Gurian-Sherman pointed out on [Civil Eats](#).


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Monsanto CEO: 'Roundup Is Not A Carcinogen'
wbur.fm/1ZQkhG0 But a lot of scientists say it probably is:
civileats.com/2016/03/10/the...

7:29 AM - 1 Apr 2016

~100 Scientists Weigh In on Debate on Most...

An independent group of scientists says the herbicide glyphosate is probably carcinogenic. Read more on award-winning food sustainability civileats.com

29

11

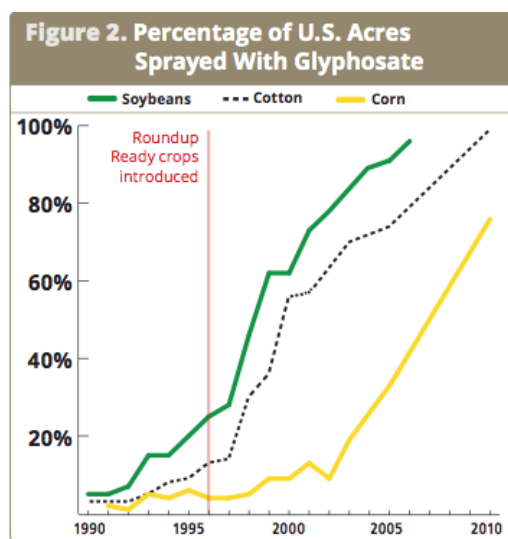
The scientists published their findings in an [article](#) for the peer-reviewed Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health. The paper argues that the authors of the EFSA's Renewal Assessment Report (RAR) dismissed incidences of glyphosate-induced cancer in lab animals as chance occurrences and also ignored important laboratory and human mechanistic evidence of genotoxicity. They also argue that the EFSA's Renewal Assessment Report overly relied on "non-publicly available industry-provided studies" to come up with its conclusion.

Gurian-Sherman, who is the [Center for Food Safety's](#) director of sustainable agriculture and senior scientist, wrote on Civil Eats:

"The article makes a complex but compelling argument in IARC's defense. For example, the authors explain how EFSA unfairly discounted several good long-running epidemiology studies that showed higher-than-average levels of non-hodgkin's lymphoma in farmers or farmworkers. They also argue that EFSA did not adequately account for the long latency period before cancer develops. In other words, lack of cancer in some studies is not compelling because they may have not been conducted for a long enough period of time."

He also noted that "the most dramatic increases in glyphosate use have occurred only in the past five to 10 years—not long enough for most cancers to develop."

In fact, according to the most recent government estimates, glyphosate use in the U.S. is at [nearly 300 million pounds](#) for 2013, up from 20 million pounds in 1992.



The authors of the paper concluded:

“Owing to the potential public health impact of glyphosate, which is an extensively used pesticide, it is essential that all scientific evidence relating to its possible carcinogenicity is publicly accessible and reviewed transparently in accordance with established scientific criteria.”

The conflicting conclusions of the IARC and the EFSA have especially raised concerns about the use of glyphosate in parts of Europe. Government officials in France, The Netherlands, Sweden and Italy are pushing firmly against the herbicide's relicensing in the European Union over health and safety risks.



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France, Sweden, Italy & Netherlands Rebel Against Relicensing of #Monsanto's #Glyphosate ecowatch.com/2016/03/07/eu-...

9:04 AM - 7 Mar 2016

86 31

Washington appears to be responding to calls from advocacy groups and farmers to study the environmental and human health impact of rampant pesticide use.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency internal watchdog group, the Office of Inspector General, **announced** late last month that it is opening an investigation into “herbicide resistance,” or the spread of **superweeds**, as well as the human health impacts of chemicals that are used to fight superweeds.

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[Join the discussion...](#)**patzagame** · 4 days ago

The conflicting conclusions of the IARC and the EFSA have especially raised concerns about the use of glyphosate in parts of Europe. Government officials in France, The Netherlands, Sweden and Italy are pushing firmly against the herbicide's relicensing in the European Union over health and safety risks. I'm going with F,N,S and Italy!

12 ^ | v · [Reply](#) · [Share](#) ›**Rob Bright** → patzagame · 3 days ago

Given that the EFSA has been shown to be as incompetent and corrupt as the FDA, it's pretty hard to take anything they say without a considerable amount of salt...

8 ^ | v · [Reply](#) · [Share](#) ›**Captain Moonlight** → patzagame · 3 days ago

OK, so we now have two Ted Miner sockpuppets on this thread, patzagame and peaceful warrior. Will any more turn up?

1 ^ | v · [Reply](#) · [Share](#) ›**Elizabeth Whitehouse** → Captain Moonlight · 3 days ago

Here's one!

One does not need conclusive laboratory results to know intuitively that the amount of glyphosate that is being sprayed around is not good for plant, man or beast. There are no safe chemicals.

11 ^ | v · [Reply](#) · [Share](#) ›**Captain Moonlight** → Elizabeth Whitehouse · 3 days ago

In that case Elizabeth you had better lock yourself up because *you* are composed of nothing other than chemicals.

1 ^ | v · [Reply](#) · [Share](#) ›**nick quinlan** → Captain Moonlight · 3 days ago

What a dweeb you are, go drink some roundup

4 ^ | v · [Reply](#) · [Share](#) ›**Elizabeth Whitehouse** → Captain Moonlight · 2 days ago

Oh, very clever. Just like concentrated and reconstituted orange juice is 'all natural'.

1 ^ | v · [Reply](#) · [Share](#) ›**nick quinlan** → Captain Moonlight · 3 days ago

And, we have 2 trolls, you and the fake farmers son

4 ^ | v · [Reply](#) · [Share](#) ›**razorjack** → nick quinlan · 3 days ago

I know they called you ted too. Congratulations!!!

3 ^ | v · [Reply](#) · [Share](#) ›**patzagame** → razorjack · 3 days ago

Je suis Ted.

3 ^ | v · [Reply](#) · [Share](#) ›**razorjack** → patzagame · 3 days ago

We should all be grateful and blessed from where we come.
he he he he .. snicker ...SNORT

3 ^ | v · [Reply](#) · [Share](#) ›**nick quinlan** → razorjack · 3 days ago

Truth tellers are all ted to these bozos . They have the mental capacity of children

2 ^ | v · [Reply](#) · [Share](#) ›

FarmersSon63 → patzagame · 4 days ago

<http://i.imgur.com/uZC5fF9.gif...>

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

Peaceful Warrior → FarmersSon63 · 4 days ago

Garbage in = garbage out

Off topic false equivalency.

12 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

patzagame → Peaceful Warrior · 3 days ago

He thinks he's funny,I think he's hilarious.

6 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

Peaceful Warrior → patzagame · 3 days ago

He's one dumb bunny, that is the truth.

6 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

TecumsehUnfaced → FarmersSon63 · 3 days ago

JokeFarmer works for Jon Entine...

<http://www.propagandists.org/p...>

http://www.truthwiki.org/Jon_E...

8 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

Peaceful Warrior · 4 days ago

Monsanto's own scientists told them Roundup/glyphosate caused cancer over 35 years ago. Instead of disclosing that fact, they called the science "inconvenient" and hid the science away from other scientists, the courts, and the people as a trade secret while at the same time telling us it was safe.

Dr Brian John says: "In 1981 both Monsanto and the EPA were already aware of malignant tumours and pre-cancerous conditions in the test animals which were fed small doses of glyphosate in the secret feeding experiments (4). Although concerns were expressed at the time by EPA committees, these concerns were later suppressed while Monsanto was allowed to bring forward a range of cynically manipulated and fraudulent studies purporting to show that glyphosate was harmless (2). None of these studies has been made available for independent examination. That is a scandal in itself. There has been a protracted and cynical cover-up in this matter. Monsanto and the EPA have been fully aware of the carcinogenic potential of glyphosate for at least 35 years. If they had acted in a precautionary fashion back then, instead of turning a blind eye to scientific malpractice, glyphosate would never have been licensed, and hundreds of thousands of lives might have been saved." "

<http://www.gmfrecymru.org/new...>

12 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

This comment was deleted.

I am Buzzlightyear → Guest · 3 days ago

Your "roommate" is a whore like you. Does your Nigerian computer need a cigarette when done?

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

FarmersSon63 → Peaceful Warrior · 4 days ago

Cletus, razor, Ted you cut and paste this same quote every single day.

I prove you are wrong every single day.

Sprague-Dawley rats develop tumors in 81% of the population no matter what they eat.

Everyone but blind activists like you and Seralini understand this.

The incidence of tumors and cancer actually DECREASE when glyphosate is consumed.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pm...>

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

Peaceful Warrior → FarmersSon63 · 4 days ago

Every day you keep repeating the same things even after being schooled on the facts.

You are drag on life, \$hill boy.

12 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

Captain Moonlight → Peaceful Warrior · 3 days ago

Try to be nice, Ted Miner.

ps. How many sockpuppets are you going to use on this thread?

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

TecumsehUnfaced → Captain Moonlight · 3 days ago

"Captain Moonlight" is another JokeFarmer...

<http://www.propagandists.org/p...>http://www.truthwiki.org/Jon_E...

9 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

Ken Gallaher → TecumsehUnfaced · 3 days ago

They an thier fellow "spokesmen" up vote each other all the time.

4 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

Just Ice → TecumsehUnfaced · 2 days ago

Shhhh, this piece of work is their hero!

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

Peaceful Warrior → Captain Moonlight · 3 days ago

Trolling, flagged again

6 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

FarmersSon63 → Peaceful Warrior · 4 days ago

Then share the study details from Monsanto.

This is the part where you say you have no such information and carry on about some conspiracy you dreamed up.

How many different brain maladies have you been diagnosed with?

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

Jim Tomasko → FarmersSon63 · 4 days ago

I find it interesting that glyphosate has to either cause cancer or be completely safe. Proving cancer is extremely difficult, but the damaging effects of glyphosate are well established in the scientific literature. There are hundreds of peer-reviewed journal articles showing the genotoxic and cytotoxic effects of glyphosate - especially within the last 10 years. Another huge issue with glyphosate is that at least 30 journal articles have shown that the surfactants ('inert ingredients') are more toxic than glyphosate. You should actually read some science, after all you can't get a hold of the unpublished monsanto studies that you seem to believe.

15 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

FarmersSon63 → Jim Tomasko · 3 days ago

No, the damaging effects are not well established in scientific literature.

You can claim that placenta cells are damaged when bathed in glyphosate in a petri dish.

But Coca-Cola kills 100% of placenta cells when used as the study medium in the same exact test.

The moral of the story?

Do not inject Coca-Cola or glyphosate directly into your bloodstream.

Feeding studies at normal legal residue levels?

Glyphosate is non-toxic.

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

Ken Gallaher → FarmersSon63 · 3 days ago

Drink up!

5 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

nick quinlan → FarmersSon63 · 3 days ago

Non industry funded science, the WHO, and over a 100 independent scientists call you out as the liar we all know you to be.

4 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

Biron_1 → nick quinlan · 2 days ago

What's it like to continuously vomit ignorance? Did you actually look at the list of "independent" scientists in the article? Notice at the end:

"Competing interests CJP, MTS and DDW are providing advice to a US law firm involved in glyphosate litigation. CJP also works part-time for the Environmental Defense Fund on issues not related to pesticides."

So we have at least three who are paid by attorneys litigating glyphosate. You call that independent???

I am quite familiar with several other of those independent scientists who have been spreading woo about RF emission. Dr. Devra Davis is not a scientist at all -- her PhD is in philosophy -- and she has been misinforming political leaders for several years on RF emission. You can view my comment log for Dr. Davis's misdeeds.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

FarmersSon63 → nick quinlan · 3 days ago

Yet another empty headed response to anything science.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

razorjack → FarmersSon63 · 3 days ago

You wish, \$hill boy

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

FarmersSon63 → nick quinlan · 3 days ago

Give us one peer reviewed feeding study that concluded that legal glyphosate residues are toxic. I double dog dare ya.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

nick quinlan → FarmersSon63 · 3 days ago

Its so toxic it kills all plant life, except Monsanto's mutated garbage. For someone that CLAIMS to have a masters degree, you certainly seem bereft of any common sense, or intelligence, for that matter.

We don't need anything peer reviewed to figure that out.

3 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

FarmersSon63 → nick quinlan · 3 days ago

So a substance that kills plants also kills humans and all other living things 100% of the time? Chocolate kills dogs.

Why doesnt it kill plants, humans or cattle?

Your simple mind is truly hilarious.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

nick quinlan → FarmersSon63 · 3 days ago

Yes ,glyphosate kills plants 100% of the time. All plants, except GMO. Its toxic

3 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

FarmersSon63 → nick quinlan · 2 days ago

Then why doesn't it kill most woody plants?

Why isn't it toxic to humans at minute residues.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

nick quinlan → FarmersSon63 · 2 days ago

It's a carcinogen. That's toxic enough to humans

1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

FarmersSon63 → nick quinlan · 2 days ago

Not according to the EPA, the EU or Canada.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

nick quinlan → FarmersSon63 · 2 days ago

Biochemical giant Monsanto has found itself under increased scrutiny after the World Health Organization recently announced that glyphosate is likely carcinogenic to humans.

Also, in the US, California recently labelled Monsanto's Roundup — as known to cause cancer. Under the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, chemicals that cause cancer, birth defects, or other reproductive harm are required to be listed and published by the state.

The slew of studies showing the adverse health effects of Roundup on laboratory animals as well as humans are overwhelmingly ominous which makes news of the chemical being found in high quantities in beer that much more worrisome.

After dumping 2.6 billion pounds of this known carcinogen on the US for the past two decades, the problem has gotten so out of hand that the FDA has announced that they will begin testing certain foods for traces of glyphosate.

"The agency is now considering assignments for Fiscal Year 2016 to measure glyphosate in soybeans, corn, milk, and eggs, among other potential foods," FDA spokeswoman Lauren Sucher told Civil Eats, an American food news publication.

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

FarmersSon63 → nick quinlan • a day ago

Like I said every respected regulatory agency in the world disagrees with the IARC's assessment. They took less than half a day of evaluating to come up with their assessment. The EPA has been evaluating glyphosate since the mid 1970's and they say glyphosate is not a carcinogen. The Germans, the EU and Canada all agree with the EPA.

Glyphosate is not a carcinogen.

In 40 years there has not even been one confirmed illness or death from consuming residues on crops.

Truly amazing to have a 100% safety record, don't you agree?

^ | v • Reply • Share ›

nick quinlan → FarmersSon63 • 20 hours ago

The FDA and the EPA are corrupt, and unaccountable to the citizens of the USA. They serve the industry and that's it.

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

FarmersSon63 → nick quinlan • 19 hours ago

LOL

Pure Comedy!!!

^ | v • Reply • Share ›

Sirios → FarmersSon63 • 3 days ago

You claim you don't work for Monsanto, yet you daily defend them as if a criminal has entered your house and is attacking your family. This kind of intense and passionate defense of someone or something that you say you have no connection to is indicative of a very disturbed psyche.

Ending most of your posts with an insult pertaining to the persons sub par mental condition can only be interpreted as a projection. Denial of this is understandable, because denial is a symptom of exposure to strong chemical agents that decrease ones ability to remain lucid.

11 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

FarmersSon63 → Sirios • 3 days ago

You claim everyone works for Monsanto and that they are the only company that sells GMO's or pesticides.

City people sure are stupid.

I am a farmer with a degree in Agronomy.

I live this subject matter every day of my life. Of course I would be passionate about defending agricultural production technologies.

You on the other hand do not farm, nor do you have an education in Agronomy.

Yet you are on here commenting on a subject you have no expertise in every single day.

You must be paid, because you have no skin in the game nor education on the subject.

1 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

nick quinlan → FarmersSon63 • 3 days ago

You are clueless, and have no idea what you are talking about

3 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›

FarmersSon63 → nick quinlan • 3 days ago

Did you even pass grade school science?

You cannot even attempt to debate the science.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›

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