

Glyphosate Commission Meeting

September 17, 2024



Agenda

1. Call to order / welcome/ introductions / recording announcement
2. Approval of previous meeting minutes (2/9/24)
3. Status of Scientific Review / Final Report after public comment;
Discussion
4. Commission's statutory responsibilities; Issuing final Scientific Review
5. Other Business
6. Adjournment

Development of the Scientific Review

COMMISSION MEETINGS

- Six meetings have been held of the Commission since November 2021.
- ERG, the Commission's consultant was retained to compile the Scientific Review.
- Public Comments were received and reviewed on scope and content of Review / Report.

PHASE I: SCIENTIFIC REVIEW/ REPORT

- The Phase I Report identified the resources to be consulted for the Scientific Review.
- Public comments were received on the Phase I Report in summer 2022.
- The Phase I Report was accepted by the Commission during the 9/15/22 meeting.

PHASE II: FINAL (DRAFT) REPORT

- ERG submitted a draft Phase II Report or Scientific Review.
- Agreed: summarize themes raised in public comments on Draft Phase 2 report; and include all comments in Phase 2 report as an appendix.

Final Scientific Review

- Discussed at last Commission meeting - February 2024
- Revised in accordance with Commission members comments
- Revised version made available for Public Comments (June-July 2024)
- Assembled public comments (two were received) added as Appendix
- Technical changes made to report (in track changes version)
- FINAL Report/ Scientific Review (August 2024) now ready for Commission review and approval

Details of Changes Made to Final Report

Starting point was the public comment draft

- Cover page and headers now indicate this final report was completed in August 2024.
- Two sentences were added to the Executive Summary to emphasize that the report contents are based on literature and assessments that were available in **January 2023**, and that literature and assessments issued since that time are generally not reflected in the report.
- In Section 1.2, two sentences were added that again note the cutoff date for the literature review.
- A sentence in Section 2.5.5 that read: “Other assessments listed in Table 2 did not address reproductive toxicity” was deleted.
- A sentence in Section 2.5.8 that read: “Other assessments listed in Table 2 did not address developmental toxicity” was deleted.
- A cover sheet for Appendix A was added noting the public comments included, who submitted them, and when they were received.

Statutory Direction to Commission (c.24 Acts of 2021)

- ... not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the creation and operation of a commission...
- ... provided further, that such commission shall conduct a scientific review of the potential impacts of glyphosate and its most common alternative herbicides on the environment and public health, including a review, undertaken in collaboration with the natural heritage and endangered species program, of the potential impacts of glyphosate and most common alternative herbicides on: (i) all species of plants and animals that have been determined to be endangered, threatened, or of special concern pursuant to chapter 131A of the General Laws; and (ii) all significant habitats designated pursuant to said chapter 131A; provided further, that the commission may expend any portion of its funds it deems necessary to enable the collaboration of the natural heritage and endangered species program;

Statutory Direction to Pesticide Subcommittee and MDAR

- provided further, that the **pesticide subcommittee** established under section 3A of chapter 132B of the General Laws shall use said scientific review as part of an individual review conducted under 333 C.M.R. 8.03 to determine whether current uses of glyphosate pose unreasonable adverse effects to the environment, and whether current registered uses of glyphosate should be altered or suspended;
- provided further, that the **department [of Agricultural Resources] shall submit** the results of both the scientific review and individual review to the joint committee on environment, natural resources and agriculture no later than December 31, 2021;

Discussion

Other Business

Adjournment

Thank you for attending

