Why does Bayer Crop Science Control Chemicals in Brexit Britain?

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Agenda and speakers for February 2019 Meeting on Priorities for UK chemicals sector - challenges, opportunities and the future for regulation post-Brexit[1]
Priorities for agricultural chemical manufacturers and the potential effects of changing regulations following Brexit: Janet Williams, Head of Regulatory Science, Bayer Crop Science Division

Bayer Crop Science, formerly I.G. Farben, the private German chemicals company allied with the Nazis in WW2
I.G. Farben manufactured the Zyklon B gas used to commit genocide against millions of European Jews in the Holocaust. It built a factory next to Auschwitz, Poland, so it could exploit Jewish slave labour in its oil and rubber production plant. In total, some 300,000 detainees from Auschwitz were employed in I.G. Farben's workforce, supplying the company with free labour. The company housed the workers in its own concentration camp, with the horrendous conditions there and in the factory leading to an estimated 30,000 deaths. On top of this, an unknown number of workers deemed unfit to continue working at the factory were sent to the death camp at Auschwitz. Alongside the brutal conditions of the labour camp, I.G. Farben also sanctioned drug experiments on live, healthy inmates. I.G. Farben was probably the most well-known corporate participant in the Holocaust, and the company's history sheds a chilling light on how genocide became tied in with economics and business. [2]
At the end of the war, after the Nuremberg Trials, the company itself was dissolved into three separate divisions, Hoescht, Bayer, and BASF. Monsanto was a firm created by the Rockefeller Foundation.[3] Monsanto partners with I.G. Farben, makers of Bayer aspirin and the Third Reich's go-to chemical manufacturer producing deadly Zyklon-B gas during World War II. Monsanto, at the invitation of the British Government led by Clement Richard Attlee, established a factory in Newport, Wales, in 1949.[4] From then on, they manufactured PCBs until 1977 and a number of other dangerous chemicals. In 1968 US documents showed that Monsanto tried to decide whether or not to come clean about the dangers of the chemicals. They stopped making PCBs in Anniston US in 1971 because of scandals about PCBs on the health of the population and wildlife. However, the British government led by Ted Heath agreed to ramp up production at their Monsanto plant in Newport.[5] Alabama is more than 50 million square miles: Wales is 8,000 square miles.

'Next steps for the UK chemical sector from an international media perspective'
Mamta Patel, Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder, Chemical Watch
Challenges for incorporating European chemical regulations into UK law
Simon Tilling, Partner, Burges-Salmon He is a lawyer and expert in European Chemical Law and REACH regulations. He lectures at the Biocides Symposia for Chemical Watch.

Chemical Watch is a global industry that has emerged to advise on Biocides Regulation: Biocides Regulations in the European Union makes a lot of money for European Regulators and for Britain REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemical substances): The Biocidal Product Regulation (BPR, Regulation (EU) 528/2012) concerns the placing on the market and use of

[1] https://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/agenda/UK-chemical-regulation-post-brexit-19-agenda.pdf
[2] https://www.newhistorian.com/ig-farben-opens-factory-at-auschwitz/3822/
[3] https://www.globalresearch.ca/the-complete-history-of-monsanto-the-worlds-most-evil-corporation/5387964
[4] http://www.eastman.com/Company/Worldwide/our_sites/Pages/Newport_SouthWales.aspx
[5] http://www.theecologist.org/The_Brofiscin_Monsanto_Files/777777/burying_the_truth_the_orginal_ecologist_investigation_into_monsanto_and_brofiscin_quarry.html

biocidal products, which are used to protect humans, animals, materials or articles against harmful organisms, like pests or bacteria, by the action of the active substances contained in the biocidal product. "*REACH is a regulation of the European Union, adopted to improve the protection of human health and the environment from the risks that can be posed by chemicals, while* ***enhancing the competitiveness of the EU chemicals industry****. It also promotes alternative methods for the hazard assessment of substances in order to reduce the number of tests on animals."*
The British Government is making a lot of money out of it because BiocidesHub and the Yordas Groups are both based in the UK.
Biocides Symposia are held regularly around the world to "*get up-to-speed on all that's new in biocidal products regulation"* to "*stay one step ahead*." Courses are from £300-400 per day to $1585 for a Symposium. A multitude of firms have clients from '*industry, crop protection and government*'.
Chemical Watch **Biocides**Hub (Shrewsbury) offered 13 Events on Biocides Regulation in 2016, ranging from beginners' courses to advanced courses. There are far more courses in 2019.
There appears to be so much demand for places on REACH training courses that a new centre has been set up in Lancaster Environment Centre. "*Originally founded as 'The REACH Centre' in 2007, the Company was set up to meet the needs of industry to comply with the EU REACH Regulation. From its inception, substantial re-investment allowed the business to rapidly expand and develop capacity in a wealth of new scientific and regulatory disciplines. Chemtrac, our globally renowned on-line product stewardship management system was introduced in 2011. In order to reflect the increasingly diverse nature of our business and research activities, the Company was re-branded as 'Yordas Group' from 1st November 2017 based in Lancaster Environment Centre."* [6] **BIOCIDES HAVE NO PLACE IN AGRICULTURE.**

What is a biocide?
It is a chemical that kills life. It can be a natural chemical. But nowadays they are mostly man-made chemicals. In modern life there are thousands of made-made chemicals used in consumer products, in food and in the environment, most of which are untested and unmeasured. In agriculture there are insecticides that kill insects, herbicides that 'control unwanted vegetation', fungicides that kill fungi or fungal spores, nematocides that kill plant-parasitic nematodes and molluscicides that kill slugs and snails. The general term for them is 'pesticides' but the agrochemical industry prefers to call them 'plant protection products' (PPPs). Many farmers in the UK use PPPs on crops, which means that there are many pesticide residues in all our non-organic food.

Opportunities for UK-based innovation, commercialisation and positioning in the global market
Professor Jason Snape, Senior Principal Environmental Scientist, AstraZeneca

British Government's Strategy for UK Life Sciences
As well as working closely with the Agrochemical Corporations, the British Government's Strategy for UK Life Sciences[7] is dependent on funding from the Pharmaceutical Corporations and the Pesticides Industry. Syngenta's parent company is AstraZeneca. In 2010, Syngenta and AstraZeneca were represented on the UK Advisory Committee on Pesticides and the Committee on Toxicity of Chemicals in Foods, Consumer Products and the Environment. The founder of Syngenta, Michael Pragnell CBE, was the Chairman of Cancer Research UK (CRUK) from 2011-2017.[8] CRUK started by giving money (£450 million/year) to the Government's Strategy for UK Life Sciences and AstraZeneca provided 22 compounds to academic research to develop medicines. AstraZeneca manufactures six different anti-cancer drugs mainly aimed at breast and prostate cancer. The Corporation has links in Asia, including Hospitals in China, Japan, Korea, and collaborators in Russia.

[6] https://www.yordasgroup.com/about-us
[7] https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/32457/11-1429-strategy-for-uk-life-sciences.pdf
[8] https://www.vinci.com/vinci.nsf/en/management-board-directors/pages/michael_pragnell.htm

AstraZeneca's Oncology Website[9] has the following prediction: "*Cancer claims over 7 million lives every year and the number continues to rise. Deaths are estimated to reach 12 million by 2030.*

The beginning of the global ecological Armageddon

Henk Tennekes first described the systemic neonicotinoid insecticides as a 'disaster in the making'
Thursday 6th January 2011: This is the Document we (my husband and I) addressed to the Chemicals Regulation Directorate of the Health and Safety Executive in response to the CRD's reply on behalf of The Right Hon James Paice MP, Minister of Agriculture (dated 20th December 2010)

'The main point of the documentation we sent to the Minister concerned new work done in Holland by a Dutch toxicologist, Dr Henk Tennekes (*The neonicotinoid insecticides: a disaster in the making*) in which he reports contamination of surface water by the neonicotinoid imidacloprid. The reply you have sent us in which you explain the functions of the Chemicals Regulation Directorate seems to contain only a defence of the neonicotinoids in relation to claims that they might be connected to honey bee disappearances. In fact, your letter did not even once mention the subject we had raised with the Minister (water contamination).

In his own words, Dr Tennekes says that his book "*catalogues a tragedy of monumental proportions regarding the loss of invertebrates and subsequent losses of the insect-feeding (invertebrate-dependent) bird populations in all environments in the Netherlands. The disappearance can be related to agriculture in general, and to the neonicotinoid insecticide imidacloprid in particular, which is a major contaminant of Dutch surface water since 2004. The relationship exists because there are two crucial (and catastrophic) disadvantages of the neonicotinoid insecticides:*

- *• They cause damage to the central nervous system of insects that is virtually irreversible and cumulative (Attachment Toxicology original article). There is no safe level of exposure, and even minute quantities can have devastating effects in the long term;*
- *• They leach into groundwater and contaminate surface water and persist in soil and water chronically exposing aquatic and terrestrial organisms to these insecticides.*

So, what, in effect, is happening is that these insecticides are creating a toxic landscape, in which many beneficial organisms are killed off."
In this document we will highlight findings related to the devastating effects on the environment and biodiversity caused by the neonicotinoid insecticides. We urge the Chemicals Regulation Directorate to take immediate action in order to ban the use of these insecticides. It could soon be too late.'

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) failed to financially support Dr Tennekes with the funding of his book, because they said 'it wasn't scientific'. Dr Tennekes had published a scientific paper in the journal *Toxicology.*[10] The real reason we subsequently found out was that they had been so convinced by Syngenta's scientific arguments that seeds coated with neonicotinoid insecticides were safe that the RSPB had planted them on their Hope Farm Reserve.

Ecological Armageddon after dramatic plunge in insect numbers 18/10/2017
In October 2017 (10 years after Dr Tennekes first described the catastrophic effects of systemic neonicotinoids on the brains of insects) Germany found that three quarter of flying insects had vanished in 25 years in protected habitats surrounded by intensively farmed land. It was predicted that the world is "*on course for ecological Armageddon*", with profound impacts on human society. Part of Abstract: *Global declines in insects have sparked wide interest among scientists, politicians, and the general public. Loss of insect diversity and abundance is expected to provoke cascading*

[9] http://www.astrazeneca.co.uk/medicines/oncology
[10] https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20803795

effects on food webs and to jeopardize ecosystem services. Here, we used a standardized protocol to measure total insect biomass using Malaise traps, deployed over 27 years in 63 nature protection areas in Germany (96 unique location-year combinations) to infer on the status and trend of local entomofauna. When the total weight of the insects in each sample was measured a startling decline was revealed. The annual average fell by 76% over the 27-year period, but the fall was even higher – 82% – in summer, when insect numbers reach their peak. [11]

Catastrophe as scientists reveal the massive decline in bird populations in France

On 21/03/2018 two research papers revealed French bird populations had fallen by a third in the past 15 years as a result of loss of insects. It was front page of *Le Monde* but failed to gain prominence in the British media. The French scientists said this was symptomatic of the future facing Europe as a whole of "*biodiversity oblivion.*" It was a pattern repeated across Europe. "*The situation is catastrophic*," said Benoit Fontaine, a conservation biologist at France's National Museum of Natural History and co-author of one of the studies. "*Our countryside is in the process of becoming a veritable desert*," he said in a communique released by the National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), which also contributed to the findings. The primary culprit, researchers speculate, is the intensive use of pesticides on vast tracts of monoculture crops, especially wheat and corn. The problem is not that birds are being poisoned, but that the insects on which they depend for food have disappeared.

"*There are hardly any insects left, that's the number one problem*," said Vincent Bretagnolle, a CNRS ecologist at the Centre for Biological Studies in Chize. Recent research, he noted, has uncovered similar trends across Europe, estimating that flying insects have declined by 80%, and bird populations have dropped by more than 400m in 30 years.[12]

Global insect apocalypse due to intensive agriculture and pesticides[13]

The analysis, published in the journal Biological Conservation, says intensive agriculture is the main driver of the declines, particularly the heavy use of pesticides. Urbanisation and climate change are also significant factors. "*If insect species losses cannot be halted, this will have catastrophic consequences for both the planet's ecosystems and for the survival of mankind*," said Francisco Sánchez-Bayo, at the University of Sydney, Australia, who wrote the review with Kris Wyckhuys at the China Academy of Agricultural Sciences in Beijing. The 2.5% rate of annual loss over the last 25-30 years is "shocking", Sánchez-Bayo told the Guardian: "*It is very rapid. In 10 years you will have a quarter less, in 50 years only half left and in 100 years you will have none.*"

One of the biggest impacts of insect loss is on the many birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish that eat insects. "*If this food source is taken away, all these animals starve to death*," he said. Such cascading effects have already been seen in Puerto Rico, where a recent study revealed a 98% fall in ground insects over 35 years. The new analysis selected the 73 best studies done to date to assess the insect decline. Butterflies and moths are among the worst hit.

For example, the number of widespread butterfly species fell by 58% on farmed land in England between 2000 and 2009. **The UK has suffered the biggest recorded insect falls overall**, though that is probably a result of being more intensely studied than most places. He thinks new classes of insecticides introduced in the last 20 years, including neonicotinoids and fipronil, have been particularly damaging as they are used routinely and persist in the environment: "*They sterilise the soil, killing all the grubs*." This has effects even in nature reserves nearby; the 75% insect losses recorded in Germany were in protected areas. Bees have also been seriously affected, with only half

[11] https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/oct/18/warning-of-ecological-armageddon-after-dramatic-plunge-in-insect-numbers

[12] https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/mar/21/catastrophe-as-frances-bird-population-collapses-due-to-pesticides

[13] https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/feb/10/plummeting-insect-numbers-threaten-collapse-of-nature

of the bumblebee species found in Oklahoma in the US in 1949 being present in 2013. The number of honeybee colonies in the US was 6 million in 1947, but 3.5 million have been lost since.
There are more than 350,000 species of beetle and many are thought to have declined, especially dung beetles. But there are also big gaps in knowledge, with very little known about many flies, ants, aphids, shield bugs and crickets. Experts say there is no reason to think they are faring any better than the studied species. A small number of adaptable species are increasing in number, but not nearly enough to outweigh the big losses. *"There are always some species that take advantage of vacuum left by the extinction of other species*," said Sanchez-Bayo. In the US, the common eastern bumblebee is increasing due to its tolerance of pesticides. Most of the studies analysed were done in western Europe and the US, with a few ranging from Australia to China and Brazil to South Africa, but very few exist elsewhere. "*The main cause of the decline is agricultural intensification*," Sánchez-Bayo said. "*That means the elimination of all trees and shrubs that normally surround the fields, so there are plain, bare fields that are treated with synthetic fertilisers and pesticides.*" He said the demise of insects appears to have started at the dawn of the 20th century, accelerated during the 1950s and 1960s and reached "*alarming proportions*" over the last two decades.

Decline of the North American avifauna[14]

Species extinctions have defined the global biodiversity crisis, but extinction begins with loss in abundance of individuals that can result in compositional and functional changes of ecosystems. Using multiple and independent monitoring networks, we report population losses across much of the North American avifauna over 48 years, including once common species and from most biomes. Integration of range-wide population trajectories and size estimates indicates a net loss approaching 3 billion birds, or 29% of 1970 abundance. A continent-wide weather radar network also reveals a similarly steep decline in biomass passage of migrating birds over a recent 10-year period. This loss of bird abundance signals an urgent need to address threats to avert future avifaunal collapse and associated loss of ecosystem integrity, function and services.

A neonicotinoid insecticide reduces fueling and delays migration in songbirds [15]

Abstract: Neonicotinoids are neurotoxic insecticides widely used as seed treatments, but little is known of their effects on migrating birds that forage in agricultural areas. We tracked the migratory movements of imidacloprid-exposed songbirds at a landscape scale using a combination of experimental dosing and automated radio telemetry. Ingestion of field-realistic quantities of imidacloprid (1.2 or 3.9 milligrams per kilogram body mass) by white-crowned sparrows (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) during migratory stopover caused a rapid reduction in food consumption, mass, and fat and significantly affected their probability of departure. Birds in the high-dose treatment stayed a median of 3.5 days longer at the site of capture after exposure as compared with controls, likely to regain fuel stores or recover from intoxication. Migration delays can carry over to affect survival and reproduction; thus, these results confirm a link between sublethal pesticide exposure and adverse outcomes for migratory bird populations.

A large-scale survey (in Switzerland) of house sparrows feathers reveals ubiquitous presence of neonicotinoids in farmlands[16]

The massive use of neonicotinoid insecticides has been repeatedly incriminated for their impacts to avian populations. Some studies have reported contamination of granivorous birds by neonicotinoids but very little is known about exposure to neonicotinoids in other bird species. To fill this lack of knowledge, we trapped house sparrows *Passer domesticus*, an omnivorous bird whose diet is composed of both grains and insects, and we collected 617 feathers from individuals living on 47 conventional, integrated-production (IP-Suisse) and organic farms distributed all over the Swiss

[14] https://science.sciencemag.org/content/early/2019/09/18/science.aaw1313
[15] https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/31515394
[16] https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0048969719300749

plateau, the country's main agricultural area. We then assessed the concentration of five neonicotinoids in 146 pools of feathers. We found that all feather samples were contaminated by at least one neonicotinoid at measurable concentration (>LOQ), with thiacloprid accounting for most of the prevalence (99%), while clothianidin was found at highest concentrations (with averages ranging from 1.68 to 9.2 ppb). Additionally, house sparrows living on conventional farms showed higher concentrations of neonicotinoids (15.26 ± 3.58 ppb) than individuals living on IP-Suisse (3.38 ± 0.86 ppb), and organic farms (2.59 ± 0.56 ppb). Our large-scale survey highlights how ubiquitous neonicotinoid insecticides have become in agricultural habitats, and reveals generalized exposure of house sparrows, and potentially other species inhabiting farmlands, to neonicotinoids.
Highlights: *We quantified neonicotinoids in 146 feather samples of house sparrows using UHPLC/MS-MS. All samples were positive for neonicotinoids. Thiacloprid was the most prevalent (99% of samples) and clothianidin attained the highest levels (up to 131.4 ng/g). Feathers of birds living on conventional farms showed higher concentrations than in the other farms. Our results highlight the ubiquity of neonicotinoids in farmland birds feathers and hence in our agroecosystems.*
Both clothianidin and thiacloprid are manufactured by Bayer Crop Science. Clothianidin has a half-life in soil of 545 (13-1386) days that is illegal in the EU. In some soils the half-life is up to 19 years.

The first systematic testing of neonicotinoids in rivers in Britain was mandated by EU water regulations and conducted in 2016[17]
The results, obtained by the conservation charity Buglife, show that half of the 16 rivers tested in England had either chronic or acute levels of contamination. Of the 23 rivers tested across Britain, neonicotinoids were not detected in six.

Massive declines in Monarch Butterfly numbers due to Roundup, Dicamba and neonicotinoid insecticides [18]
The NRDC Report in February 2015: *"Recently, though, a dramatic change in farming practices—the widespread cultivation of genetically engineered, glyphosate-resistant Roundup Ready corn and soybeans—has triggered a precipitous decline of common milkweed, and thus of monarchs. Glyphosate, sold by Monsanto under the name of Roundup, is one of the very few herbicides that is effective on milkweed. Unlike many other weedkillers, once absorbed it is translocated (moved internally) to root tissue, where it kills milkweed at the root and so prevents regeneration. Glyphosate is particularly lethal to milkweed when used in conjunction with Roundup Ready crops. It is applied more frequently, at higher rates, and later in the season—during milkweed's most vulnerable flowering stage of growth—than when used with traditional crops. The increasingly common practice of growing Roundup Ready crops continuously on the same fields means that milkweed is exposed to glyphosate every year, with no opportunity to recover."*
Press Release 2018 [19] "*Monarchs have lost an estimated 165 million acres of breeding habitat in the United States to herbicide spraying and development. The caterpillars only eat milkweed, but the plant has been devastated by increased herbicide spraying in conjunction with corn and soybean crops that have been genetically engineered to tolerate direct spraying with herbicides. In addition to glyphosate, monarchs are threatened by other herbicides including dicamba, Enlist Duo and by neonicotinoid insecticides that are toxic to young caterpillars.*
Monarch butterflies west of the Rocky Mountains overwinter on the central coast of California. Their numbers dropped to a five-year low of only 200,000 butterflies this year, down from 1.2 million two decades ago. A recent study found that if current trends continue, the western population has a 63 percent chance of extinction in 20 years and more than an 80 percent chance of extinction within 50 years."

[17] https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/dec/13/english-rivers-polluted-by-powerful-insecticides-first-tests-reveal
[18] https://www.centerforfoodsafety.org/files/cfs-monarch-report_2-4-15_design_05341.pdf
[19] https://www.biologicaldiversity.org/news/press_releases/2018/monarch-butterfly-03-05-2018.php

New study links common herbicides and antibiotic resistance

A new study finds that bacteria develop antibiotic resistance up to 100,000 times faster when exposed to the world's most widely used herbicides, Roundup (glyphosate) and Kamba (dicamba) and antibiotics compared to without the herbicide.[20] Professor Dame Sally Davies (CMO England) made an announcement in 2011 that antibiotic resistance was an apocalyptic threat to humans and the issue should be added to the government's national risk register of civil emergencies.[21] When I informed her that one of glyphosate's many actions was as an antibiotic, she ignored me.

The Rapid Decline of The Natural World Is A Crisis Even Bigger Than Climate Change. Why aren't pesticides blamed? Because Bayer and Syngenta scientists are pollination experts

A three-year UN-backed study from the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform On Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services has grim implications for the future of humanity.[22]

Industrial farming is to blame for much of the destruction and extinction of nature. We need agriculture systems that regenerate ecosystems not degenerate them.[23]

"The loss of species, ecosystems and genetic diversity is already a global and generational threat to human well-being. Protecting the invaluable contributions of nature to people will be the defining challenge of decades to come. Policies, efforts and actions – at every level - will only succeed, however, when based on the best knowledge and evidence. This is what the IPBES Global Assessment provides."

– Sir Robert Watson, IPBES Chair.

The only mention of pesticides appears to be: "*Pesticides, including neonicotinoid insecticides, threaten pollinators worldwide, although the long-term effects are still unknown."* It's a pity Sir Robert didn't take notice of Dr Henk Tennekes' toxicological studies on systemic neonicotinoid insecticides in 2010. Instead Sir Robert believed Syngenta and Bayer who claimed that they were harmless to bees.

Did he invite Christian Maus from Bayer CropScience and Helen Thompson from Syngenta as experts to author some of the Chapters on Pollination because they had opposed Dr Tennekes?[24]

Dr Tennekes has written an Editorial in 2019, describing Bayer's strategy. At the end, he says, *"Maus and Nauen did not retract earlier publications of Bayer experts (Abbink and Mehlhorn) that had asserted irreversibility of receptor binding, and did not declare a conflict of interest, that they were employed by Bayer.*"

He concludes: "*Unwarranted product defense by Bayer and Syngenta may have had catastrophic consequences for the environment*." [25]

Why was there no mention of glyphosate-based herbicides that Monsanto claims are as safe as table salt? Monsanto/Bayer are in the middle of multiple Court cases in the US (more than 13,000), in which the Attorneys for Baum Hedlund have released the Monsanto Papers.[26]

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[20] https://peerj.com/articles/5801/

[21] https://www.theguardian.com/society/2013/jan/23/antibiotic-resistant-diseases-apocalyptic-threat

[22] https://www.ipbes.net/news/ipbes-global-assessment-summary-policymakers-pdf

[23] https://www.awaken.com/2019/03/the-rapid-decline-of-the-natural-world-is-a-crisis-even-bigger-than-climate-change/

[24] https://www.ipbes.net/pollination-assessment-experts

[25] https://juniperpublishers.com/oajt/pdf/OAJT.MS.ID.555623.pdf

[26] https://www.baumhedlundlaw.com/toxic-tort-law/monsanto-roundup-lawsuit/monsanto-secret-documents/

Documents reveal EU bowed to demands of pesticide lobbies and created SAPEA, a committee of corrupt individuals that would actually increase sales of pesticides

The EU regulators allowed the European Glyphosate Task Force to reassess their own products
An environmental non-profit has obtained documents showing the extent to which the European Commission has been lobbied by pesticide producers seeking to protect their interests, leading to a more lenient regulation of these controversial substances.[27]
The environmental group, Pesticide Action Network Europe (PAN), has obtained over 600 documents from the Commission showing top EU officials fighting to "cripple" the bloc's pesticide protection legislation. "*The Commission has chosen the side of the industry*," PAN's Chemicals Coordinator Hans Muilerman told De Morgen.[28]
The haul of over 600 documents was obtained after a two-year legal battle won by the Pesticide Action Network Europe (PAN). They show top officials trying to protect chemical and farming interests from incoming European rules that were expected to directly ban up to 32 (page 115) endocrine disrupting (EDC) pesticides. The law set out specifically to protect human, animal health and the environment and followed 25 years of mounting scientific evidence linking EDC pesticides to severe human health impacts and gender-bending effects on animals. They may be the cause of birth defects that shocked France last year and made international news headlines.

The secret papers, released by order of European Court of Justice, show an internal struggle to define scientific criteria for identifying and banning EDC pesticides. Outnumbered environment and research department officials are seen resisting attempts by agriculture, enterprise, industry and even health department officials to water down the criteria by introducing non-scientific factors, such as farming profitability. They were joined by the Commission Secretary General who orchestrated [documents 42, 559] a flawed impact assessment process. Its bizarre early results downplayed health impacts [document 258]; found that the more pesticides that remained in use, the less the impact on health and the environment [document 560]; and that the fewer EDC pesticides identified, the better [document 273].
A new report for the Commission, written together with industry-linked experts and supporters of anti-regulation pressure groups, recommends scrapping the hazards approach.

Scientific advice in the area of authorisation processes of plant protection products[29]
Following a request from the College of Commissioners, led by Commissioner Andriukaitis, the European Commission's Group of Chief Scientific Advisors (former High-Level Group of Scientific Advisors) adopted at their 7th meeting (23-24 March 2017) a scoping paper (see below) confirming their intention to produce a Scientific Opinion on "Authorisation processes of Plant Protection Products in Europe from a scientific point of view".
Experts from across Europe nominated by SAPEA (Science Advice for Policy by European Academies) contributed with their knowledge and expertise to this topic. A co-ordination group was established by the Group of Chief Scientific Advisors to which SAPEA experts Professors David N. Coggon, Jean Golding, Paul Miller, Evangelia Ntzani, Dominique Parent-Massin, Colin Ockleford, Susanne Hougaard Bennekou and Alan Boobis were invited. The Group of Chief Scientific Advisors also established a sounding board to which experts Thomas Backhaus, Hubert Deluyker, Daniel Dietrich and Jørgen Schlundt, were invited and were involved in fact checking the draft final scientific opinion. Their aim was to **increase** the use of pesticides.

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[27] http://www.brusselstimes.com/eu-affairs/15496/documents-lobbies-attempts-cripple-undermine-pesticide-regulation-eu
[28] https://www.pan-europe.info/press-releases/2019/05/top-eu-officials-fought-higher-pesticide-exposure-secret-documents-show
[29] https://ec.europa.eu/research/sam/index.cfm?pg=pesticides

Experts' declarations of interest were examined by the Commission and no declared interests were found to constitute a conflict of interest. These declarations of interest were published at the same time as the Group of Chief Scientific Advisors' scientific advice and remained available for consultation for six months.

Use of confidential data: current EU legislation is set up in favour of the pesticides industry
Monsanto Europe replied to Health Commissioner Andriukaitis on 04/04/2016 to say that the 24 GTF members were prepared to grant very limited access to the data. [30]
From this we learn that the current EU legislation is set up to "*protect intellectual property and confidential information from public disclosure.*" "*All confidential data …shall be deleted or redacted (Regulation 1107/2009, Article 63*)." Much of the industry data submitted to the German RMS was redacted. This EU regulation is set up for the industry to make money and to allow the EU citizens to be poisoned.

The European Parliament has no legislative function in the approvals process
According to the European Glyphosate Task Force, the renewal process is legislated for by means of a Commission Regulation (No. 1107/2009). Therefore, the European Parliament has no legislative function within the framework of the approval process. [31]

Why did the European Commission re-authorise glyphosate when it knew that many European agricultural topsoils sampled in 2015 were contaminated with glyphosate and AMPA?[32]
Why did Jean-Claude Juncker re-authorise glyphosate when ECHA classified it as causing serious eye damage and being toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects?[33] Presumably that was why he didn't mention these other classifications in the final version?[34]

Global food contamination with weedkiller

Weedkiller found in 43 out of 45 popular breakfast cereals marketed for US children
Significant levels of the weedkilling chemical glyphosate have been found in an array of popular breakfast cereals, oats and snack bars marketed to US children, a new study has found.[35] Tests revealed glyphosate, the active ingredient in the popular weedkiller brand Roundup, present in all but two of the 45 oat-derived products that were sampled by the Environmental Working Group, a public health organization. Nearly three in four of the products exceeded what the EWG classes safe for children to consume. Products with some of the highest levels of glyphosate include granola, oats and snack bars made by leading industry names Quaker, Kellogg's and General Mills, which makes Cheerios. In April, internal emails obtained from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) showed that scientists have found glyphosate on a wide range of commonly consumed food, to the point that they were finding it difficult to identify a food without the chemical on it. The FDA has yet to release any official results from this process. **The UK *Guardian* reported:** "*There was no indication that the claims related to products sold outside the US*.**"**

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[30] https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/cwt/files/letter_1.pdf
[31] http://www.glyphosate.eu/system/files/sidebox-files/renewal_process_for_glyphosate_faqs_0.pdf
[32] https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0048969717327973
[33] https://echa.europa.eu/-/glyphosate-not-classified-as-a-carcinogen-by-echa
[34] https://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/plant/docs/pesticides_glyphosate_commission_proposal_final_version.pdf
[35] https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/aug/16/weedkiller-cereal-monsanto-roundup-childrens-food

Shockingly high levels of weedkiller (two out of four contained aminomethylphosphonic acid, its most toxic metabolite) found in popular breakfast cereals marketed for British children
In view of this statement by the *Guardian*, we sent samples of four oat-based breakfast cereals marketed for children in the UK to the Health Research Institute, Fairfield, Iowa, an accredited laboratory for glyphosate testing. Kellogg No added sugar granola with apricot and pumpkin seeds Barley Flakes 27% Oats 23% Rye 13% Wheat flour Oat flour; Quaker Oat so Simple: Quaker Whole Grain Rolled Oats; Weetabix Oatibix 100% wholegrain oats; Nestle Multigrain Cheerios: Whole Grain Oat Flour 29.6% Whole Grain Wheat 29.6% Whole Grain Barley Flour 17.9% Whole Grain Corn Flour 2.1% Whole Grain Rice Flour 2.1%.

Dr Fagan the Director said: "*These results are consistently concerning. The levels consumed in a single daily helping of any one of these cereals, even the one with the lowest level of contamination, is sufficient to put the person's glyphosate levels above the levels that cause fatty liver disease in rats (and likely in people).* He wrote that they were "*shockingly high levels*". And he said, "*to think they are being given to children.*"

Type of breakfast cereal marketed for children Product description	Glyphosate level ng/g	AMPA ng/g	Effective glyphosate level ng/g
Kelloggs No added sugar granola with Apricot & pumpkin seeds	499.90	ND	499.90
Quaker/Oat So simple/Original Microwaveable Oats	464.23	24.04	500.28
Weetibix Oatibix 100% wholegrain oats	318.85	16.96	344.28
Nestle Multigrain Cheerios Whole Grain Oat Flour 29.6% Whole Grain Wheat 29.6% Whole Grain Barley Flour 17.9% Whole Grain Corn Flour 2.1% Whole Grain Rice Flour 2.1%.	137.29	ND	137.29

The *Daily Mail* published the figures but the *Guardian* didn't, although they published US figures. [36]

In the US, weed killer found in granola and crackers, internal FDA emails show [37]
"I have brought wheat crackers, granola cereal and corn meal from home and there's a fair amount in all of them," FDA chemist Richard Thompson wrote to colleagues in an email last year regarding glyphosate. Thompson, who is based in an FDA regional laboratory in Arkansas, wrote that broccoli was the only food he had "on hand" that he found to be glyphosate-free.
That internal FDA email, dated January 2017, is part of a string of FDA communications that detail agency efforts to ascertain how much of the popular weedkiller is showing up in American food. The tests mark the agency's first-ever such examination. The FDA is charged with annually testing food samples for pesticide residues to monitor for illegally high residue levels. The fact that the agency only recently started testing for glyphosate, a chemical that has been used for over 40 years in food production, has led to criticism from consumer groups and the Government Accountability Office (GAO)"

The FDA has been testing glyphosate in food for nearly 2 years, but has not produced a Report[38]
A letter from Congressman Ted Lieu, a member of the Committee on the Judiciary in the House of Representatives, to Dr Gottlieb of the FDA asking him to clarify the practices around testing

[36] https://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-6315209/Revealed-UK-cereals-contain-potentially-harmful-amounts-WEEDKILLER.html
[37] https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2018/apr/30/fda-weedkiller-glyphosate-in-food-internal-emails
[38] https://lieu.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/rep-lieu-urges-fda-clarify-practices-around-testing-glyphosate-food

glyphosate in food and why they are not releasing them. He asks seven pertinent questions which he hopes the FDA will answer.

FDA Glyphosate Testing Conspicuously Skips Oats, Wheat Products[39]
Monsanto's Roundup Weed Killer Detected on Two-Thirds of Corn and Soybean Samples
WASHINGTON – The Food and Drug Administration failed to include oats and wheat products in its glyphosate testing program, leaving Americans largely in the dark about their exposure through food to the active ingredient in Monsanto's Roundup weed killer. After sitting on the data from its glyphosate tests for more than a year, the FDA finally made the results public. Tests found glyphosate on 63 percent of corn samples and 67 percent of soybean samples. But FDA did not test any oats and wheat, the two main crops where glyphosate is used as a pre-harvest drying agent, resulting in glyphosate contamination of foods such as Cheerios and some brands of granola.
"*FDA's failure to test for glyphosate in the foods where it's most likely to be found is inexcusable*," said Olga Naidenko, Ph.D, Senior Science Advisor for Children's Environmental Health at EWG. Instead, she said, the FDA tested milk and eggs for glyphosate, even though studies by independent researchers and Monsanto's own analysis show that glyphosate does not transfer into these products. In August, tests commissioned by EWG found glyphosate residues on popular oat cereals, oatmeal, granola and snack bars. Almost three-fourths of the 45 samples tested had glyphosate levels higher than what EWG scientists consider protective of children's health with an adequate margin of safety.

US Scientists sound the alarm over global mass poisoning: humans and the environment are being poisoned by thousands of untested synthetic chemicals

Editorial: Regulating toxic chemicals for public and environmental health
Lisa Gross and Linda Birnbaum.[40]
"By the time President Gerald Ford signed the United States Toxic Substances Control Act in the fall of 1976, tens of thousands of synthetic chemicals had entered world markets with no evidence of their safety... Ford's signing statement described a law giving the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) broad regulatory authority to require toxicity testing and reporting to determine whether the chemicals posed risks." "If a chemical is found to present a danger to health or the environment," Ford promised, "appropriate regulatory action can be taken before it is too late to undo the damage."
That's not what happened. The 60,000-plus chemicals already in commerce were grandfathered into the law on the assumption that they were safe. And the EPA faced numerous hurdles, including pushback from the chemical industry that undermined its ability to implement the law. Several articles explore the failure of regulations to keep hazardous chemicals from polluting our food, air, and drinking water. Maricel Maffini and her colleagues describe the failure of regulators to account for health risks associated with the thousands of chemicals introduced into the food system since 1958, when Congress authorized the Food and Drug Administration to ensure the safety of substances added to food. Chemicals from agriculture, industry, and other commercial uses routinely enter drinking water supplies."
Joseph M Braun and Kimberley Gray: Challenges to studying the health effects of early life environmental chemical exposures on children's health. [41]
Maricel V Maffini, Thomas G Neltner, Sarah Vogel: We are what we eat: Regulatory gaps in the United States that put our health at risk. [42]

[39] https://www.ewg.org/release/fda-glyphosate-testing-conspicuously-skips-oats-wheat-products
[40] http://journals.plos.org/plosbiology/article?id=10.1371/journal.pbio.2004814
[41] http://journals.plos.org/plosbiology/article?id=10.1371/journal.pbio.2002800
[42] http://journals.plos.org/plosbiology/article?id=10.1371/journal.pbio.2003578

"The American diet has changed dramatically since 1958, when Congress gave the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) the authority to ensure the safety of chemicals in food. Since then, thousands of chemicals have entered the food system. Yet their long-term, chronic effects have been woefully understudied, their health risks inadequately assessed. The FDA has been sluggish in considering scientific knowledge about the impact of exposures—particularly at low levels and during susceptible developmental stages. The agency's failure to adequately account for the risks of perchlorate—a well-characterized endocrine-disrupting chemical—to vulnerable populations is representative of systemic problems plaguing the regulation of chemicals in food. Today, we are faced with a regulatory system that, weakened by decades of limited resources, has fallen short of fully enforcing its mandates. The FDA's inability to effectively manage the safety of hundreds of chemicals is putting our children's health at risk."

UN warns of global failure to tackle sales of synthetic chemicals – with risks ranging from cancer to coral damage[43]

Sales of synthetic chemicals will double over the next 12 years with alarming implications for health and the environment, according to a global study that highlights government failures to rein in the industry behind plastics, pesticides and cosmetics.

The second Global Chemicals Outlook, which was released in Nairobi on March 11th 2019, said the world will not meet international commitments to reduce chemical hazards and halt pollution by 2020. In fact, the study by the United Nations Environment Programme found that the industry has never been more dominant nor has humanity's dependence on chemicals ever been as great. Depending on the chemical and degree of exposure, the risks can include cancer, chronic kidney disease and congenital anomalies. The World Health Organization estimated that the burden of disease was 1.6 million lives in 2016. Halpaap said this was likely to be an underestimate. In addition to the human health dangers, he said chemicals also affect pollinators and coral reefs.

Global Chemicals Outlook II – From Legacies to Innovative Solutions: Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development March 2019[44]

Mandated by the UN Environment Assembly in 2016, seeks to alert policymakers and other stakeholders to the critical role of the sound management of chemicals and waste in sustainable development. It takes stock of global trends as well as progress made and gaps in achieving the global goal to minimize the adverse impacts from chemicals and waste by 2020.

Continued growth in the pesticide/crop protection industry

Pesticides include herbicides, insecticides, termiticides, nematicides, rodenticides and fungicides. These products are largely used for crop protection in agriculture. Today the industry is valued at over US dollars 50 billion and there are around 600 active ingredients. Herbicides account for approximately 80 per cent of all pesticide use (Phillips McDougal 2018).

Top 10 products used on major crops in the United States by volume, 1968 and 2016 (Phillips McDougal 2018, p. 4)

Glyphosate	an herbicide, an antibiotic, a fungicide, an antiprotozoal, an organic phosphonate, a growth regulator, a toxicant, a virulence enhancer and is persistent in the soil. It chelates (captures) and washes out the following minerals: boron, calcium, cobalt, copper, iron, potassium, magnesium, manganese, nickel and zinc. (Monsanto/Bayer)

[43] https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/mar/12/surge-in-chemical-use-a-threat-to-health-and-environment

[44] https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/28113/GCOII.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y

Metolachlor	an organochlorine, selective herbicide
Pyraclostrobin	a fungicide (Aldrich-Sigma)
Mesotrione	an herbicide (Syngenta)
Thiamethoxam	a neonicotinoid insecticide (Syngenta)
Acetochlor	an herbicide (Monsanto and Zeneca)
Azoxystrobin	a systemic fungicide (Syngenta)
Atrazine	an endocrine-disrupting herbicide (Syngenta)
Abamectin	an insecticide, acaricide, nematicide
Clothianidin	a long acting (545 (13-1386) days) systemic neonicotinoid insecticide (Bayer)

Germany reported 57 different pesticides in one dead bee

Irish beekeeper Mary Montaut said campaigners were advocating for the banning of a class of pesticides known as neonicotinoids, and also the well-known pesticide Roundup. "*Roundup is systemic and gets into the whole plant and is therefore on the nectar and the pollen*," she explained. She cited a recent German report which found 57 pesticides in one dead bee. "*What we don't know is what is the effect of that combination? We have only recently discovered that fungicides and pesticides together make it even more damaging for bees."*

Irish Agriculture and Food Development Authority TEAGASC publishes list of pesticides approved for vegetable crops in 2019[45]

There are many pesticides authorised for use, including insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, acaricides, nematicides and growth inhibitors. These include neonicotinoid insecticides that have been banned in the EU, chlorothalonil, a fungicide that EFSA has found to be toxic to humans and the environment and the ban will be passed formally in late April or early May 2019 and then enter into force three weeks later, the commission spokeswoman said.

Sulfoxaflor- a second-generation neonicotinoid insecticide manufactured by Dow that was authorised by the US EPA in 2013. In 2015, a court overturned the EPA approval, because there was insufficient evidence that it did not harm bee health. In October 2016 it was re-approved because Dow contributed $1 million to Trump's campaign. A similar thing happened to the pesticide chlorpyrifos which the EPA had already banned because of toxic effects on the brains of children.

Global Agricultural Corporations are severely criticised for manufacture of pesticides

Report presented to UN Human Rights Council about the Right to Food

Global Agricultural Corporations are severely criticised by Hilal Elver the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to food. [46] The Report presented to the UN human rights council on 08/03/2017 is severely critical of the global corporations that manufacture pesticides, accusing them of the "*systematic denial of harms*", "*aggressive, unethical marketing tactics*" and heavy lobbying of governments which has "*obstructed reforms and paralysed global pesticide restrictions*".

The report authored by Hilal Elver the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to food and co-authored by Baskut Tuncak, the UN's special rapporteur on toxics, says pesticides have "*catastrophic impacts on the environment, human health and society as a whole*", including an estimated 200,000 deaths a year from acute poisoning. Its authors said: "*It is time to create a global process to transition toward safer and healthier food and agricultural production*."

[45] https://www.teagasc.ie/media/website/publications/2019/Teagasc-Approved-Pesticides-for-Use-on-Vegetable-Crops-2019.pdf

[46] http://www.pan-uk.org/site/wp-content/uploads/United-Nations-Report-of-the-Special-Rapporteur-on-the-right-to-food.pdf

"*It is a myth*," said Hilal Elver. "*Using more pesticides is nothing to do with getting rid of hunger.* [47] *According to the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), we are able to feed 9 billion people today. Production is definitely increasing, but the problem is poverty, inequality and distribution*." Elver said many of the pesticides are used on commodity crops, such as palm oil and soy, not the food needed by the world's hungry people: "*The corporations are not dealing with world hunger, they are dealing with more agricultural activity on large scales*."
Extracts from the Report: "*excessive use of pesticides is very dangerous to human health, to the environment and it is misleading to claim they are vital to ensuring food security*. *Chronic exposure to pesticides has been linked to* ***cancer, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases, hormone disruption, developmental disorders and sterility***. *Farmers and agricultural workers, communities living near plantations, indigenous communities and pregnant women and children are particularly vulnerable to pesticide exposure and require special protections. The experts warn that certain pesticides can persist in the environment for decades and pose a threat to the entire ecological system on which food production depends. The excessive use of pesticides contaminates soil and water sources, causing loss of biodiversity, destroying the natural enemies of pests, and reducing the nutritional value of food. The impact of such overuse also imposes staggering costs on national economies around the world. The experts say the use of neonicotinoid pesticides is particularly worrying because they are accused of being responsible for a systematic collapse in the number of bees around the world.* ***For example, heavy use of these insecticides has been blamed for the 50 per cent decline over 25 years in honeybee populations in both the United States and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland***. *Such a collapse, they say, threatens the very basis of agriculture as 71% of crop species are bee-pollinated."*

The Royal Society of Medicine Conference on pesticides safety in November 2017[48]
At the Royal Society of Medicine Conference on pesticides safety the Soil Association organised by its Policy Director, the late Peter Melchett, presented alarming figures. Under FOI request FERA Science (previously a government agency, now privatized) provided figures that showed that the number of active ingredients applied to wheat had risen **12-fold** from 1.7 in 1974 to 20.7 in 2014; that those applied to potatoes had risen **5.8** times from 5.3 in 1975 to 30.8 in 2014; that those applied to onions and leeks had risen **18-fold** from 5.3 in 1975 to 30.8 in 2014. Pesticides are tested individually but no one tests the cocktail of pesticides to which humans and the environment are exposed. **The Chief Scientist for Defra Professor Ian Boyd** pointed out that once a pesticide is approved there is no follow up. Dr Michael Antoniou, head of the Gene Expression and Therapy Group at King's College London, told the Royal Society of Medicine conference that the adjuvants in commercial pesticide formulations can be toxic in their own right and in some cases more toxic than the declared active ingredients. Yet only the active ingredients are tested and assessed for long-term health effects in the regulatory process. Dr Antoniou also said that research on hormone-disrupting chemicals, including pesticides, shows that very low realistic doses can be more toxic than higher doses. Professor Carl Leifert talked about pesticides linked to low sperm quality. In a recent study, published in *JAMA Internal Medicine*, Harvard researchers followed 325 women at an infertility clinic and found that women who regularly ate pesticide-treated fruits and vegetables had lower success rates getting pregnant with IVF, while women who ate organic food had reduced risk of pregnancy loss and increased fertility.

[47] https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/mar/07/un-experts-denounce-myth-pesticides-are-necessary-to-feed-the-world
[48] https://www.soilassociation.org/news/2017/november/rapid-increase-in-pesticide-use-and-new-evidence-of-health-impacts-of-very-low-doses/

Dave Bench Head of UK Chemicals Regulation Division described the regulatory system for pesticides *as robust and as balancing the risks of pesticides against the benefits to society.*
It was therefore astounding to see the complete denial of the NFU and Defra about the 2016 State of Nature Report. NFU vice-president Guy Smith said *"intensification of farming had ended in the early 1990s."* that farmers "*were using less fertiliser and pesticides than ever"* and a spokeswoman from Defra said: *"Protecting our precious environment and supporting our world-leading farmers, a cornerstone of our economy, will form an important part of our EU exit negotiations."*
The NFU, Defra, CRD and HSE are deliberately colluding with each other to mislead the public.

Dave Bench was a key speaker at the meeting on 7th February 2019 when the Head of Regulatory Science for Bayer was making her 'priorities' for agricultural chemical manufacturers known

Implications of EU Exit and next steps for UK chemical regulation policy
Dave Bench, Director, EU Exit - Chemicals, Health and Safety Executive
James Dancy, Head of EU Exit, Chemicals and Pesticides, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Why are the US Attorney's Lawsuits not mentioned in the UK media? Is it because Bayer CropScience controls Chemicals in Brexit Britain?

Attorneys in the US are taking Lawsuits out against Monsanto by plaintiffs who claimed that Roundup caused their cancer and that Monsanto concealed it. With Each Roundup verdict Bayer's purchase of Monsanto looks worse[49]
Facing billions of dollars in glyphosate lawsuits, the company may not survive a self-inflicted wound. By Caroline Winter and Tim Loh
Extracts: *"Analysts estimate that settling all the U.S. lawsuits could cost from about $2.5 billion to $20 billion. Meanwhile, Wall Street, retail investors, farmers, Bayer employees, and just about everyone else is wondering, what was the company thinking? Didn't Bayer's leaders anticipate trouble when they decided to acquire Monsanto, long ranked by the Harris Poll as one of America's most hated companies? Did they truly believe the Roundup litigation wouldn't be a problem? And can Bayer survive this self-inflicted wound? Just weeks before assuming Bayer's top post, Baumann assured investors and journalists that he had no plan for doing anything "revolutionary." So, it came as a shock when, half a month into his tenure, news leaked that he'd proposed the largest corporate takeover in German history. Shares immediately plummeted 9%. "We went to bed as pharma shareholders and woke up with glyphosate," says Christian Strenger, a corporate governance expert and Bayer shareholder. In 2017, when Baumann surveyed scientists in Bayer's pharmaceutical unit in Berlin, several said they believed Roundup may cause cancer. And by the time the acquisition was complete, teams of plaintiffs' lawyers had forced the release of more than 400 internal Monsanto documents—the so-called Monsanto Papers—illustrating how the U.S. company fought off serious concerns dating as far back as 1984. In 2016 the EPA assembled a panel of outside scientists to peer-review the agency's long-held view that glyphosate is safe. Eight of 15 panelists raised significant concerns about the EPA's stance, and three more questioned data presented by Monsanto and other pesticide manufacturers. The EPA's final report, which largely validated the agency, obfuscated these apprehension.*
Brett Wisner's (one of the plaintiffs' attorneys) own mistrust of Monsanto stretches back to his childhood in Topanga Canyon, Calif., a bohemian enclave in western Los Angeles County. His father, an environmentalist, screenplay writer, and author of Living Healthy in a Toxic World, worked with

[49] https://www.bloomberg.com/news/features/2019-09-19/bayer-s-monsanto-purchase-looks-worse-with-each-roundup-verdict

labor organizer Cesar Chavez to get medical help for farmers exposed to DDT, a pesticide manufactured by, among others, Monsanto."

After completing law school at Georgetown University, where he also got a master's degree in public policy, Wisner returned to Los Angeles and landed a job with Baum, Hedlund, Aristei & Goldman as a plaintiffs' attorney. In 2015 a woman in the marketing department sent the firm's lawyers an emotional email, asking them to consider a case against Monsanto. Her uncle, an avocado farmer who'd used Roundup for years, had just died after a short battle with non-Hodgkin lymphoma. Most of the partners dismissed the idea because proving the cause of cancer is almost impossible. But Wisner spent a few weeks researching the science and concluded, "Holy shit, there's actually a case here."
He called some other prominent plaintiffs' attorneys across the country and found that several were collaborating to file Roundup suits. One of them, Michael Miller, who runs a law firm in Orange, Va., welcomed Wisner on board. "He goes, 'Shit guys, I'm already doing this. I got 10 cases. We're having a meeting in Denver in two weeks. Come on down, let's go,' " Wisner says.
The attorneys, most of them from five firms, decided to focus on non-Hodgkin lymphoma patients, because IARC had found "a statistically significant association" between the disease and exposure to glyphosate. Wisner began by collecting academic studies and successfully unsealed more than 80 confidential company documents, his own contribution to the Monsanto Papers."

Monsanto Papers | Secret Documents[50]
The collection of documents known as The Monsanto Papers or The Monsanto Secret Documents are available, here, and explained in detail. Baum Hedlund Aristei & Goldman is one of the leading law firms representing people across the nation in lawsuits against Monsanto. These personal injury and wrongful death lawsuits claim that exposure to the herbicide weed killer, Roundup, causes non-Hodgkin lymphoma.
These documents, obtained via Discovery (pre-trial civil procedure allowing the parties to obtain evidence from each other) allow people to see what is happening "behind the curtain" of secrecy that normally shrouds ongoing litigation. You will find links to internal Monsanto emails, text messages, company reports, studies and other memoranda.

US Right to know: Carey Gillam: former journalist for Reuter's and now research director[51]
More than 18,400 people have filed suit against Monsanto Company alleging that exposure to Roundup herbicide caused them or their loved ones to develop non-Hodgkin lymphoma, and that Monsanto covered up the risks. As part of the discovery process, Monsanto has had to turn over millions of pages of its internal records. We are posting these Monsanto Papers and other court records here. (Monsanto was purchased by Bayer AG in 2018.)
FEDERAL COURT – On April 4, 2019 Judge Vince Chhabria ordered Bayer/Monsanto to enter into mediation with plaintiffs' attorneys.

Revealed: how Monsanto's 'intelligence center' targeted journalists and activists. Internal documents show how the company worked to discredit critics and investigated singer Neil Young[52]
Monsanto operated a "fusion center" to monitor and discredit journalists and activists, and targeted a reporter who wrote a critical book on the company, documents reveal. The agrochemical corporation also investigated the singer Neil Young and wrote an internal memo on his social media activity and music.

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[50] https://www.baumhedlundlaw.com/toxic-tort-law/monsanto-roundup-lawsuit/monsanto-secret-documents/
[51] https://usrtk.org/monsanto-papers/
[52] https://www.theguardian.com/business/2019/aug/07/monsanto-fusion-center-journalists-roundup-neil-young?fbclid=IwAR3UR7-Wp1_1v6-Ynsz30wMbb3-vBxYYa39c52_iTolZNqYtPxHY40f_l8I

The records reviewed by the *Guardian* show Monsanto adopted a multi-pronged strategy to target Carey Gillam, a Reuters journalist who investigated the company's weedkiller and its links to cancer. Monsanto, now owned by the German pharmaceutical corporation Bayer, also monitored a not-for-profit food research organization through its "intelligence fusion center", a term that the FBI and other law enforcement agencies use for operations focused on surveillance and terrorism.
The documents, mostly from 2015 to 2017, were disclosed as part of an ongoing court battle on the health hazards of the company's Roundup weedkiller. They show:

- Monsanto planned a series of "actions" to attack a book authored by Gillam prior to its release, including writing "talking points" for "third parties" to criticize the book and directing "industry and farmer customers" on how to post negative reviews.
- Monsanto paid Google to promote search results for "Monsanto Glyphosate Carey Gillam" that criticized her work. Monsanto PR staff also internally discussed placing sustained pressure on Reuters, saying they "continue to push back on [Gillam's] editors very strongly every chance we get", and that they were hoping "she gets reassigned".
- Monsanto "fusion center" officials wrote a lengthy report about singer Neil Young's anti-Monsanto advocacy, monitoring his impact on social media, and at one point considering "legal action". The fusion center also monitored US Right to Know (USRTK), a not-for-profit, producing weekly reports on the organization's online activity.
- Monsanto officials were repeatedly worried about the release of documents on their financial relationships with scientists that could support the allegations they were "covering up unflattering research".

The internal communications add fuel to the ongoing claims in court that Monsanto has "bullied" critics and scientists and worked to conceal the dangers of glyphosate, the world's most widely used herbicide. In the last year, two US juries have ruled that Monsanto was liable for plaintiffs' non-Hodgkin lymphoma (NHL), a blood cancer, and ordered the corporation to pay significant sums to cancer patients. Bayer has continued to assert that glyphosate is safe.
"*I've always known that Monsanto didn't like my work … and worked to pressure editors and silence me*," Gillam, who is also a Guardian contributor and now USRTK's research director, said in an interview. "*But I never imagined a multi-billion-dollar company would actually spend so much time and energy and personnel on me. It's astonishing*."

Why don't top doctors and the media in the UK tell people the truth about their health?

Each year there are steady increases in the numbers of new cancers in the UK and increases in deaths from the same cancers, with no treatments making any difference to the numbers.
In the UK there were 13,605 new cases of Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma in 2015 (and 4,920 deaths in 2016)[53]: there were 41,804 new cases of bowel cancer in 2015 (and 16,384 deaths in 2016); 12,547 new cases of kidney cancer in 2015 (and 4,619 deaths in 2016); 5,736 new cases of liver cancer in 2015 (5,417 deaths in 2016); 15,906 new cases of melanoma in 2015 (2,285 deaths in 2016); 3,528 new cases of thyroid cancer in 2015 (382 deaths in 2016); 10,171 new cases of bladder cancer in 2015 (5,383 deaths in 2016); 8,984 new cases of uterine cancer in 2015 (2,360 deaths in 2016); 7,270 cases of ovarian cancer in 2015 (4,227 deaths in 2016); 9,900 new cases of leukaemia in 2015 (4,712 deaths in 2016); 55,122 new cases of invasive breast cancer in 2015 (11,563 deaths in 2016); 47,151 new cases of prostate cancer in 2015 (11,631 deaths in 2016); 9,211 new cases of oesophageal cancer in 2015 (8,004 deaths in 2016); and 5,540 new cases of myeloma in 2015 (3,079 deaths in 2016); 2,288 new cases of testicular cancer in 2015 (57 deaths in 2016); 9,921 new cases of pancreatic cancer in 2015 (9,263 deaths in 2016); 11,432 new cases of brain cancer in 2015 (5,250

[53] https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/health-professional/cancer-statistics/statistics-by-cancer-type/non-hodgkin-lymphoma

deaths in 2016); 46,388 new cases of lung cancer in 2015 (and 35,620 deaths in 2016). In the US in 2014 there were 24,050 new cases of myeloma.

On 28/08/2018 Robert F Kennedy Jr. one of the US Attorney's fighting Bayer, said: Bayer Needs More Than an Aspirin to Cure Its Monsanto-Sized Headache: "*Monsanto also faces cascading scientific evidence linking glyphosate to a constellation of other injuries that have become prevalent since its introduction.*" [54]

"In a special telephone meeting on Thursday, August 23, Bayer AG's CEO Werner Bauman tried to reassure the German conglomerate's principal shareholders who were concerned about the recent drop in the company's stock.

Bayer's stock fell dramatically after an unfavorable verdict against Bayer's St. Louis subsidiary, Monsanto. Bauman expressed his confidence in Monsanto and predicted a sunny future for its flagship herbicide, Roundup. He told his top-tier investors that Bayer had performed an adequate due-diligence on Monsanto before purchasing the troubled company for $66 billion this past June. At the time of its purchase, Monsanto told its German suitors that a $270-million set-aside would cover all its outstanding liabilities arising from Monsanto's 5,000 Roundup cancer lawsuits.

Bauman did concede to anxious shareholders that Monsanto had withheld internal papers relevant to the case. Bayer never saw those internal Monsanto documents prior to the purchase.

It's no surprise that Monsanto kept secrets from Bayer. Johnson's jury heard evidence that for four decades Monsanto maneuvered to conceal Roundup's carcinogenicity by capturing regulatory agencies, corrupting public officials, bribing scientists and engaging in scientific fraud to delay its day of reckoning. The jury found that these activities constituted "malice, fraud and oppression" warranting $250 million in punitive damages.

I am one of several attorneys representing, collectively, now some 8,000 clients with similar cases. I attended the two-month trial and worked with the trial team led by two young and exceptionally gifted lawyers, Brent Wisner of Baum Hedlund Aristei & Goldman and Dave Dickens of The Miller Firm. For Bayer the worst is yet to come.

Despite Monsanto's efforts, the science linking glyphosate—Roundup's active ingredient—to non-Hodgkin's lymphoma has passed the critical inflection point. European nations are moving to ban or restrict the chemical, and California regulators and courts have ordered Monsanto to warn consumers of Roundup's carcinogenicity at all points of sale. Both federal and state courts across the country have agreed that the question can be sent to juries. Hundreds of new inquiries have flooded our offices since the Johnson verdict.

Perhaps more ominously for Bayer, Monsanto also faces cascading scientific evidence linking glyphosate to a constellation of other injuries that have become prevalent since its introduction, including obesity, depression, Alzheimer's, ADHD, autism, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's, kidney disease, and inflammatory bowel disease, brain, breast and prostate cancer, miscarriage, birth defects and declining sperm counts. Strong science suggests glyphosate is the culprit in the exploding epidemics of celiac disease, colitis, gluten sensitivities, diabetes and non-alcoholic liver cancer which, for the first time, is attacking children as young as 10.

Researchers peg glyphosate as a potent endocrine disruptor, which interferes with sexual development in children. The chemical compound is certainly a chelator that removes important minerals from the body, including iron, magnesium, zinc, selenium and molybdenum.

Roundup disrupts the microbiome destroying beneficial bacteria in the human gut and triggering brain inflammation and other ill effects.

The public's growing concerns with Roundup are, in part, due to Monsanto's overreaching.

For two decades following its licensing in 1974, farmers and gardeners used Roundup as a conventional weedkiller. After Monsanto's introduction of Roundup Ready seeds in the 1990s,

[54] https://www.organicconsumers.org/blog/kennedy-monsanto-roundup-verdict-bayer-stock

farmers began aerial spraying of the herbicide on entire fields, including newly planted corn, canola and soy genetically altered to thrive in the toxic mist that killed all neighboring weeds.
Then, around 2006, Monsanto started marketing Roundup as a desiccant to dry up oats and wheat immediately before harvest. For the first time, farmers were spraying the chemical directly on food. Roundup sales rose dramatically to 300 million pounds annually in the U.S., with farmers spraying enough to cover every tillable acre in America with a gallon of Roundup.
Glyphosate now accounts for about 50% of all herbicide use in the U.S. About 75% of glyphosate use has occurred since 2006, with the global glyphosate market projected to reach $11.74 billion by 2023. Never in history has a chemical been used so pervasively. Glyphosate is in our air, water, plants, animals, grains, vegetables and meats. It's in beer and wine, children's breakfast cereal and snack bars and mother's breast milk. It's even in our vaccines.

Is Janet Williams, Head of Regulatory Science at Bayer Crop Science or Dave Bench Senior Scientist UK Health and Safety Executive worried about Bayer going out of business, or have they no idea?

Dr Henk Tennekes' work in 2010 on the increasing concentrations of the systemic neonicotinoid imidacloprid in Dutch surface waters poisoning aquatic insects and leading to declines in insect-feeding birds, has been ignored by the Health and Safety Executive. This is the letter sent by us on 6th January 2011 (reproduced in full on page 4) warning HSE: "*In this document we will highlight findings related to the devastating effects on the environment and biodiversity caused by the neonicotinoid insecticides. We urge the Chemicals Regulation Directorate to take immediate action in order to ban the use of these insecticides. It could soon be too late*.'
Added to that ECHA's classification of glyphosate being a substance that causes serious eye damage and is toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects.

As for humans, there will be a cascading mortality from sudden unexpected deaths from cancers and other side effects of Roundup in the diet over the next few years. The staff in NHS are already unable to cope with them as they have been poisoned with Roundup too, in their food, in the air, the water and rainwater.

Rosemary Mason 22 September 2019