August 17, 2021

Craig Menear
Home Depot
2455 Paces Ferry Rd SE
Atlanta, GA 30339

Dear Mr. Menear,

On behalf of the 124 organizations below and our over 7.5 million members nationwide, we are writing to urge Home Depot to signal its continued dedication to protecting the health of people, pollinators and the planet.

Bayer recently announced that it will reformulate Roundup by replacing glyphosate with alternative active ingredients for the U.S. consumer market by 2023. While this is a positive step, the health of people and pollinators cannot wait. **We urge Home Depot to lead the industry by ending sales of Roundup and other glyphosate-based herbicides immediately. We also urge your company to not sell the reformulated Roundup products unless the replacement active ingredients are demonstrated to be truly safe for people and pollinators.**

There is no guarantee that Bayer will replace glyphosate with safer chemicals. In a process known as "regrettable substitution," the replacements for high-profile chemicals of concern like glyphosate are often as toxic as the original chemicals. As this analysis[1] shows, half of all herbicides offered by your company contain highly hazardous ingredients. It is imperative that Home Depot step up to ensure that, once Roundup is reformulated, it is a genuinely safe alternative for your consumers.

Bayer's decision to remove glyphosate from Roundup is a response to years-long court battles the company inherited after acquiring Roundup manufacturer Monsanto in 2018. In a series of high-profile court cases, glyphosate exposure has been linked to non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in farmers, groundskeepers, and homeowners using the herbicide for lawn care.[2] The vast majority of the over one hundred thousand people who have sued Bayer are homeowners who used Roundup on their lawns and gardens.

Glyphosate, the active ingredient in the herbicide Roundup®, was determined to be a probable human carcinogen by the World Health Organization International Agency for Research on Cancer and the California Office of Health Hazard Assessment.[3,4]

In addition to cancer, exposure to glyphosate and the herbicide formulations it's found in has been associated with endocrine disruption, DNA damage, shortened pregnancy, reproductive harm, disruption of the gut microbiome, kidney toxicity, and fatty liver disease.[5,6,7,8,9,10,11]

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency determined that glyphosate can kill or harm 93% of endangered species.[12] Glyphosate is a primary driver of the decimation of Monarch butterfly

populations and has also been linked to bee declines. The use of glyphosate is devastating Monarch butterfly populations by destroying the milkweed plants their young depend on.[13,14] Monarch populations have declined by 90 percent in the past two decades.[15] Recent research has also linked glyphosate to bee declines, showing that it can disrupt honeybee gut microbiomes, affect larval development, increase colony vulnerability to pathogen infestation, reduce productivity, and impair honeybee navigation, linking the herbicide to declines in bee populations.[16,17,18,19] In addition, overuse of glyphosate has led to resistant "superweeds" on more than 60 million acres of U.S. farmland, with a resulting increase in toxic herbicides 2,4-D and dicamba.[20]

Home and garden stores can make a significant difference in reducing the use of this toxic product. Research shows that homeowners use up to 10 times more chemical pesticides per acre on their lawns than farmers use on crops.[21]

Because Home Depot is a top company dedicated to meeting growing consumer demand for environmentally friendly garden products, we urge Home Depot to:

- Eliminate all products containing glyphosate from stores and online sales immediately and ensure that any reformulated products, such as Roundup, are not harmful to people, pollinators and broader ecosystems before selling them;
- Increase offerings of organic approved products and other safer alternatives (see the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's list of active and inert ingredients approved as minimum risk pesticides);
- Use this toxicity analysis,[22] which found that half of all herbicides offered by your company contain highly hazardous ingredients, to set goals to decrease overall sales of toxic pesticide products; and
- Publicize progress toward these commitments to demonstrate that your company has taken steps to protect pollinators and human health and will continue to do so.

These actions will build on Home Depot's leadership on pesticides. We applaud your company for its commitment to eliminate use of neonicotinoids from live plant offerings.

Given the widespread harm to human health, pollinators and the environment associated with glyphosate products, the responsible decision is to remove them from store shelves immediately. Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Abundance NC
Alaska Community Action on Toxics
All-Creatures.org
Alliance for Global Justice
Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments WEST
Anacostia Watershed Society

Animals Are Sentient Beings, Inc.
Asheville Alternatives to Pesticides
Because Health
Beyond Pesticides
Beyond Toxics
Breast Cancer Prevention Partners
Bright Building LLC
Californians for Pesticide Reform
Catskill Mountainkeeper
Center for Environmental Health
Center for Food Safety
Central Maryland Beekeepers Association
CMRTI of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.
Coalition to Protection New York
Common Table Creative
Community Action Works
Conservation Congress
Consumer Reports
Dr. Yolanda Whyte Pediatrics
Dryden Resource Awareness Coalition
Eco-Healthy Solutions
Ecological Farming Association
Ecology Center
Environment America
Epidemic Answers
Families Advocating for Chemical and Toxics Safety (FACTS)
Family Farm Defenders
Farm Worker Ministry Northwest
Food & Water Action
Friends of the Bitterroot
Friends of the Earth
Gap Mountain Goats
Garter Snake Garden
GASP
Global Justice Ecology Project
GMO Free USA
GMO-Free Florida
Good Neighbor Iowa
Green America
Green State Solutions

Greenpeace US
Grow For Food
Harrington Investments, Inc.
Hawai'i SEED
Hawai's Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA)
HEAL Food Alliance
Herbicide-Free Campus
Humming for Bees
Informed Green Solutions, Inc
Institute for Responsible Technology
International Center for Technology Assessment
Kid's Right to Know
Kiss the Ground
LEAD for Pollinators, Inc.
Los Jardines Institute
Lucky2BeMe LLC
Mangrove Action Project
Maryknoll Sisters
Maryland Pesticide Education Network
Massachusetts Avenue Project, Inc.
Material Research L3C
McGeary Family Farm
Michael Bau Landscaping
Millions Against Monsanto Toronto
Mind the Store campaign
Moms Across America
Moms Advocating Sustainability.org
National Latino Farmers & Ranchers Trade Association
Natural Resources Defense Council
Noah's Notes
Non Toxic Communities
Northeast Organic Farmers Association of Rhode Island (NOFA-RI)
Northeast Organic Farming Association - Interstate Council
Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Hampshire (NOFA-NH)
Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York (NOFA-NY)
Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont (NOFA-VT)
Northeast Organic Farming Association, Mass. Chapter (NOFA-MA)
Northwest Center for Alternatives to Pesticides
Occidental Arts and Ecology Center
Ocean Health Institute

Organic Consumers Association
Organic Seed Growers and Trade Association (OSGATA)
People & Pollinators Action Network
People for a Healthy Environment
Pesticide Action Network
Pollinate Minnesota
Pollinator Project Rogue Valley
Protect Sudbury, Inc.
QuarterMill Farm
Raptors Are The Solution
Real Food Media
Regeneration Massachusetts
Residents Allied for the Future of Tioga (RAFT)
Right Livelihood College
Safe Ag Safe Schools
Safe Food Matters
Save Our Sky Blue Waters
Seneca Lake Guardian
Seneca Towns Engaging People for Solutions
Sierra Club
Story of Stuff Project
SumOfUs
Sustainable Farming Association
Swifty Foundation
The Black Institute
The Borneo Project
Think Tank NTG
Toronto Non-GMO Coalition
Toxic Free NC
Turning Green
U.S. PIRG
UPSTREAM
Wine & Water Watch
Women's Voices for the Earth
www.gmoscience.org
YardSmartMarin
Yellowstone to Uintas Connection
Zero Waste Ithaca

1101 15th Street, NW · 11th Floor · Washington, DC 20005
202.783.7400 · 202.783.0444 fax · 877.843.8687 toll free · www.foe.org
2150 Allston Way, Suite 360 · Berkeley, CA 94704
510-900-3150 · 510-900-3155 fax · 866.217.8499 toll free

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