Facing deadline, farmer backlash, EU reauthorizes herbicide glyphosate for 18 months

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis.

The European Commission is due to extend the EU-wide licence for the controversial weedkiller glyphosate this week, a top official said [June 28], after member states failed to decide on its future ahead of a June 30 deadline.

. . . .

On [June 28], the EU's executive launched formal procedures to settle the issue, but EU Health and Food Safety Commissioner Vytenis Andriukaitis said it was a done deal.

"We will adopt extension ... of glyphosate [for] 18 months," he said in Luxembourg, following a meeting of EU agriculture ministers.

This time-frame will give the European Chemicals Agency time to issue an opinion on the safety of the weedkiller which, it is hoped, will end the deadlock among EU capitals.

Many EU governments are in favour of a licence renewal, but large member states such as Germany . . . are undecided.

Without a decision to extend or renew the licence, products containing glyphosate would eventually have to be removed from the European market. Provisions still exist, however, for individual member states to restrict products containing the chemical.

Read full, original post: EU to grant 18-month extension for contested weedkiller glyphosate