

German coalition pledges GMO ban, phase out of glyphosate, expansion of organic farming

Germany's draft coalition deal includes a goal of ending use of the weed-killer glyphosate within the country but gives no time frame, after Berlin swung a vote in November extending its use across the European Union.

The timing of an end to glyphosate use has been highly controversial in Europe amid a heated debate over whether the chemical causes cancer.

"We will with a systematic minimisation strategy significantly restrict use of plant protection chemicals containing glyphosate, with the goal of fundamentally ending usage as fast as possible," the draft deal to establish a new German coalition government said.

The draft, published on Wednesday [Feb. 7] on the homepage of Chancellor Angela Merkel's conservative CDU party, did not indicate a schedule for ending glyphosate use.

"We will develop alternatives jointly with the agricultural sector as part of an arable farming strategy which will regulate environmentally friendly and nature-compatible use of plant protection chemicals," it added.

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Other agricultural policies agreed for the new government include a formalisation of the current ban on growing crops containing genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in Germany and an expansion of organic farming, the draft deal said.

Read full, original post: [German coalition deal sets no timetable to end glyphosate use](#)