



Why Lawsuits Against Monsanto Matter

Glyphosate exposure can be critical for developing chronic disease.



And not just for the workers who have to handle and spray these products. Monsanto has been in the hot seat for their product RoundUp. Multiple lawsuits have been filed (and won) for cancer links this year, and there's been a growing number of parkinson's cases that are related to exposure from glyphosate.

That begs the question: why is glyphosate so harmful? How does it impact us and our surrounding environment?

Glyphosate targets the shikimate pathway, which is a crucial enzyme process in plants. While the shikimate pathway doesn't exist in human cells, it is present in many beneficial gut bacteria. These microorganisms play a vital role in digestion and immune system regulation. Studies show glyphosate interferes

with gut bacteria by disrupting this pathway, leading to an imbalance known as **dysbiosis**. This imbalance weakens the immune system, increases inflammation, and contributes to the development of chronic conditions like irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), allergies, and even neurodevelopmental issues such as autism. Other autoimmune conditions (like multiple sclerosis and celiac disease) are also related to glyphosate usage.

Glyphosate has also been linked to **leaky gut syndrome**, where the lining of the intestines becomes permeable, allowing toxins and bacteria to enter the bloodstream. This causes inflammation and can lead to autoimmune disorders.

Glyphosate's impact extends far beyond human health, affecting ecosystems and biodiversity. As a non-selective herbicide, it kills a wide range of plants, leading to a loss of habitat for numerous species, including bees, butterflies, and birds. This results in **biodiversity loss**, disrupting food chains and local ecosystems.

It's also highly persistent in soil and water, where it can linger for extended periods. In aquatic environments, glyphosate harms fish and amphibians. Runoff from agricultural fields can contaminate nearby rivers and lakes, leading to ecosystem imbalances. Runoff can also contaminate drinking water. **Soil health** is also compromised by glyphosate use. It depletes beneficial soil microorganisms and reduces soil fertility, making it harder for plants to grow without heavy chemical inputs, creating a cycle of dependence on synthetic fertilizers and pesticides.

A better future for the health of America means that we need a sustainable approach to agriculture. These lawsuits are just the beginning, and hopefully we see change for the better.