



Roundup ProVantage – safety to people & animals in sprayed areas.

Monsanto are committed to minimising the environmental impact of herbicide treatments as well as maximising their effect on killing target weeds. The effectiveness of Roundup herbicide, and its favourable environmental characteristics, have combined to make it one of the most widely used and trusted herbicides in the world.

Glyphosate, the active ingredient in Roundup ProVantage, controls weeds by blocking the plant's protein production system. It stops the production of an enzyme, which is present in most plants but not part of the metabolism of humans, animals, fish or insects. If ingested it passes straight through the body and is not absorbed or accumulated. Glyphosate is not absorbed through the skin and contact with treated leaves would not lead to glyphosate entering the body.

Glyphosate degrades readily in the environment and does not accumulate. When used according to approved uses, it has no negative effects on wildlife.

The undiluted product has such a high safety profile that it is not even classified by the World Health Organisation in relation to toxicity from either oral ingestion or dermal absorption. Indeed when diluted and applied through a standard sprayer the droplets produced are 99% water and equivalent to rain water in their characteristics. Any accidental ingestion of spray droplets by operators or bystanders is not expected to produce any symptoms or adverse effects.

We suggest that people and animals are kept out of a treatment area whilst spraying and until it is dried on the leaf, but that is not a statutory requirement, just good spraying practice. (It is possible to transfer chemical on fur/skin/feet to areas which do not require treatment and cause unwanted foliar damage). Even if people or animals were to come in contact with wet leaves we would not expect any adverse effects.

If dogs were to brush against or ingest treated leaves whilst sniffing in areas treated with Roundup ProVantage there would be no expected effects. Any ingested foliage would pass through the digestive system with the glyphosate un-metabolised. Indeed Roundup-treated grass has full registration to be grazed, conserved as hay or silage and fed to dairy cows, cattle, sheep, horses, and other animals-including lactating and pregnant females.

The undiluted product is not classed as a skin irritant and wet leaves should not cause any soreness even to the more exposed parts of the dog such as the pads of the feet. Once dry on the leaf the product cannot be transferred. In practical terms sprayed foliage will be dry within a few hours and the action of operators in an area is likely to send wild animals to seek shelter and minimise the risk of being directly sprayed.

CAUTION: Any poisonous plants remain a potential hazard after spraying as farm animals may graze on decaying foliage, which would be rejected when still actively growing. This means species like:-Common Ragwort, Hemlock, Hemlock Water Dropwort, Cowbane, Bracken, St John's Wort, Lords & Ladies and Horsetail, should not be sprayed and left in the same field as grazing farm animals. Leave stock out until the foliage has completely died down or cut and remove after 5 days if the grazing is urgently required.

For more details contact the Monsanto Technical Helpline on 01954 717575
e-mail technical.helpline.uk@monsanto.com website at www.monsanto-ag.co.uk

Roundup products contain glyphosate.

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USE PESTICIDES SAFELY. ALWAYS READ THE LABEL AND PRODUCT INFORMATION BEFORE USE

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