

Maine Bans Aerial Spraying of Harmful Herbicides in State's Forests

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by [Sustainable Pulse](#)

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The Maine Legislature last week approved a proposal to ban aerial spraying of some herbicides, including glyphosate, in the state's forests, Associated Press reported.

The proposal, introduced by Democratic Senate President Troy Jackson, bans the the aerial spraying of glyphosate and other synthetic herbicides as a forest management strategy.

Jackson said he was concerned the herbicides seep into rivers and streams, jeopardize ecosystems and pose threats to human health. He said the ban was a step to "protect the health and well-being of the people working and living in northern Maine, and safeguard our natural resources for future generations."

Across the pond in Europe, the European Federation of Food, Agriculture and Tourism Trade Unions (EFFAT) recently called for an immediate ban on glyphosate-based herbicides and other harmful pesticides.

"The newly adopted position on the issue responds to EFFAT's commitment to a more sustainable agriculture which underpins, inter alia, free trade agreements with binding requirement to respect highest environmental and social standards, investments in workers' skills, social protection and

research and development towards sustainable pest management.

“As sufficient evidence exists on the risks related to the use of glyphosate for workers, human health and biodiversity, EFFAT calls for the immediate ban of glyphosate as an active substance in herbicide products.”

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