



Spear House
51 Victoria Street
Bristol
BS1 6AD
17/07/26

Emma Hardy MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Seacole Building
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Dear Minister

Many thanks for your letter dated 09 June 2026, in which you outlined the government's priorities around glyphosate and other pesticides.

Your letter was a response to a letter from us, signed by more than 20 other organisations and concerned individuals sent on 6th May, the same day we launched a citizens engagement campaign, *Cut the Chemicals from our Food and Fields*. The campaign included a petition calling on the government to end the use of glyphosate as a pre-harvest desiccant, to alleviate concerns over public health and nature, while facilitating closer trade with our neighbours in the European Union, where glyphosate's use as a pre-harvest desiccant is already prohibited.

While we await a new date for the EU-UK summit to conclude talks on an agrifood agreement that we anticipate will include a commitment to align with the EU on pesticides regulations, including conditions around the use of glyphosate, we now write on behalf of the more than 65,000 citizens who have signed our petition.

Farmers currently using glyphosate as a desiccant may need support to adopt alternatives while ensuring their businesses can continue to thrive. We therefore urge Defra to ensure the Farming Roadmap and associated agri-environmental schemes adequately support farmer-led innovation in this space, while incentivising integrated pest management, organic farming and nature-friendly production to help enable such a transition.

Thank you for your attention to an issue which is of obvious concern and interest to citizens across the UK.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Helen Browning', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Helen Browning OBE

Chief Executive Officer, Soil Association

Email: HBrowning@soilassociation.org