

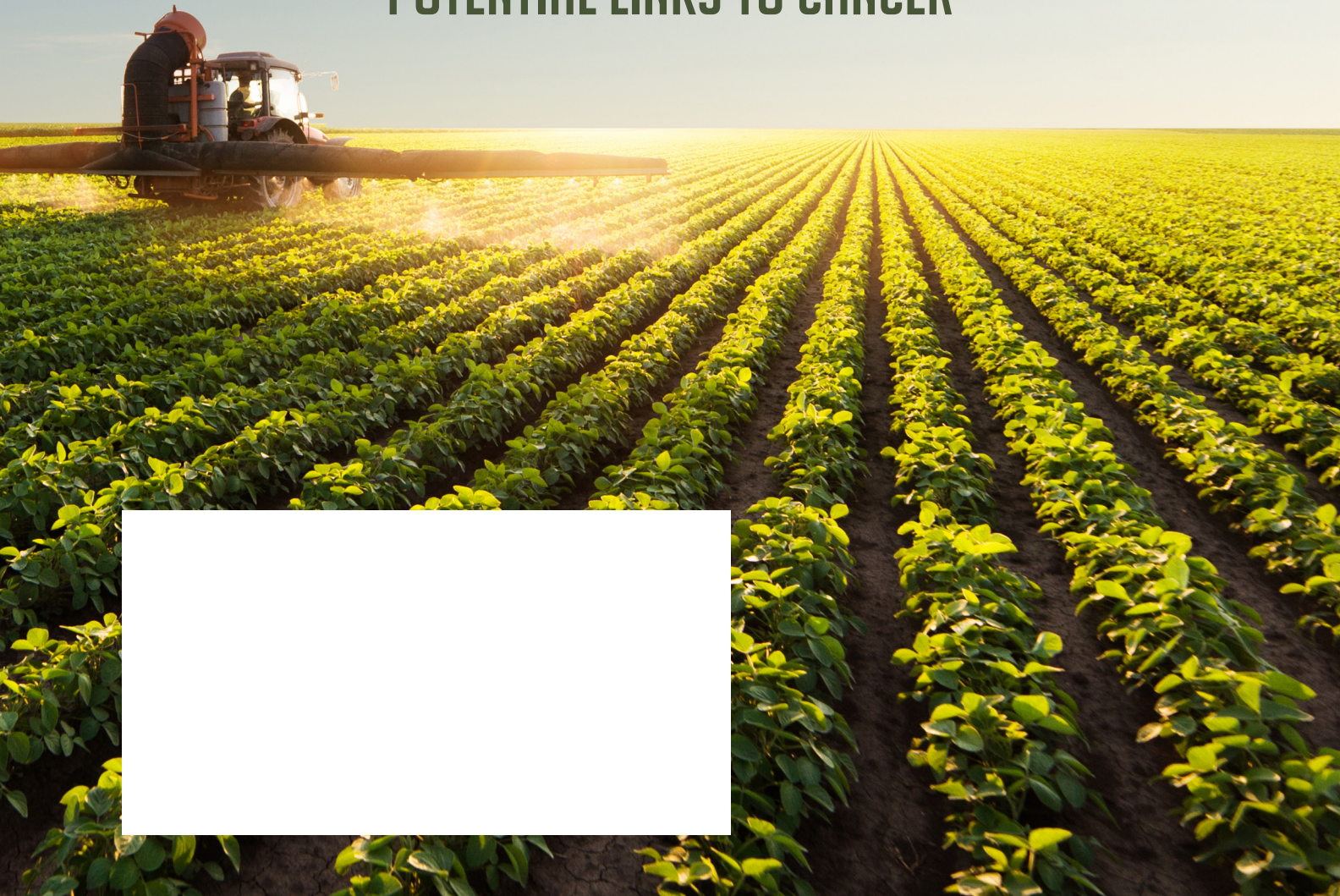
FULMER SILL'S Living Safer

VOLUME 11 • EDITION 2

MAGAZINE

Roundup

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE
POTENTIAL LINKS TO CANCER



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Living Safer

A Letter from the Firm



Dear Friends,

Fulmer Sill is pleased to provide you with this copy of *Living Safer*. This publication is produced in collaboration with a growing community of respected legal professionals, industry experts and consumer advocates called The Injury Board, all committed to improving everyone's quality of life by promoting safety.

Our law firm is passionately devoted to protecting people and fighting for consumer rights, whether it be handling serious injury and death cases or consumer class actions. We believe that an informed client is the best client. To that end, this magazine promotes security and well-being through articles and safety tips. We hope this information will help you and those close to you avoid injury, or give you guidance if injuries do occur. Our goal is to educate you about potentially hazardous products and conditions to help keep you and your family safe. And we endeavor to prevent others from suffering tragic injuries by promoting safe practices and responsible product manufacturing.

If you have any legal questions or would like to speak with our firm, please visit us at www.fulmersill.com, or call us at 405.509.6300.

Sincerely,
Matthew J. Sill



ROUNDUP AND CANCER-A SAGA OF DECEIT

by: Matthew J. Sill

Glyphosate was synthesized and brought to market by Monsanto in 1974 as the active ingredient of its new weed-killer, Roundup. In the decades that followed, the use of Roundup and other glyphosate-containing weed-killers exploded. This was mostly due to the introduction of genetically modified, glyphosate-resistant Roundup-Ready crops such as soy, corn, and wheat, that enabled farmers to kill weeds without killing their crops. Glyphosate is now by far the most widely-used weed-killer in the world, with further increases expected in the future, partly due to emergence and spread of glyphosate-resistant weeds.

Since its introduction to the market, Monsanto has held the position that glyphosate and Roundup are safe to humans and has tried to dispute any evidence or study raising questions in that regard. The EPA initially approved Roundup based on studies conducted by the laboratory Industrial Bio-Test Laboratories (IBT). IBT was later discovered to have fabricated the safety data for glyphosate and several other herbicides and was subject to criminal investigation and convictions. When the EPA became aware of the fraud in 1976, it asked Monsanto to provide additional safety data or risk the ban of its product, but Monsanto repeatedly refused to do so. The results of the animal carcinogenicity studies finally performed by Monsanto in the mid-1980s showed an increase in the tumors in mice and rats exposed to glyphosate. The EPA then classified glyphosate as Class C or "possibly carcinogenic to humans." However, after a heavy-handed lobbying campaign by Monsanto in 1991 and shortly before the introduction of Monsanto's Roundup-Ready GMO crops, EPA changed its classification of glyphosate to Class E or "non-carcinogenic for humans."

In the past couple of decades, several epidemiological studies have demonstrated a link between exposure to Roundup and NHL. A number of peer-reviewed scientific articles have also shown that glyphosate damages the DNA in lymphocytes (the cells involved in NHL). DNA damage is one of the known causes of cancer. But the turning point in the Roundup safety saga happened in 2015, when the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), the cancer research arm of the World Health Organization, investigated the evidence relating to carcinogenicity of glyphosate. IARC study, performed by 17 scientists from 11 nations, found that there was sufficient evidence to list glyphosate as "probably carcinogenic to humans" (Group

2A) for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (NHL). Group 2A is IARC's second highest carcinogenic level.

In the decades since Roundup was first introduced to the market, Monsanto has done nothing to evaluate its safety in humans. Instead, its efforts have been solely focused on trying to discredit scientists who called the safety of Roundup into question. The Roundup team at Monsanto, with the help of its hired scientists, did everything in its power to dispute the evidence of health risks of Roundup, while insisting to regulators and the public that Roundup was safe.

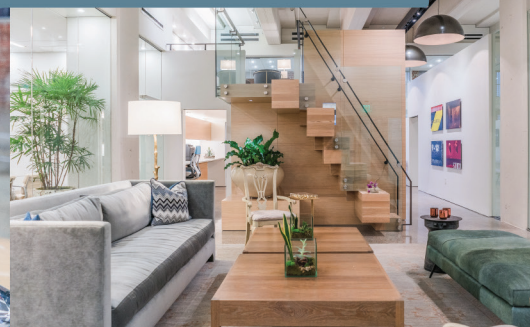
After the IARC announcement of its conclusion about glyphosate, lawsuits were initiated by individuals diagnosed with NHL following exposure to Roundup. Currently, over 13,000 Roundup cases are on file in various courts. The majority of those cases have been filed in state courts in Missouri, where Monsanto headquarters is located. Cases in federal court have been consolidated in the federal court for the Northern District of California.

Our law firm represents a large number of those plaintiffs both in Missouri and California. Success in cases of this nature is critically dependent on the strength of the scientific evidence and expert testimony presented to the court and the jury. We are pleased to announce that our attorney, Dr. Tara Tabatabaie, a former scientist, has been a critical member of the team of select few attorneys developing the scientific evidence for the nation-wide Roundup litigation. Dr. Tabatabaie's extensive scientific expertise, together with the many years of experience of our other attorneys in cases against large corporations, is a true asset to our clients.

So far, the cases of four California residents have gone to trial in California, all resulting in jury verdicts in favor of the plaintiffs. The sheer size of the verdicts against Monsanto in those cases reflected the degree of the juries' disapproval of Monsanto's conduct: the first trial resulted in a \$280 million verdict against Monsanto. Of this verdict, \$279 million dollars was allocated to punitive damages. In the second trial, the jury awarded plaintiff \$80 million. The jury verdict in the third trial, with a husband a wife both suffering from NHL as plaintiffs, was just announced with a landmark verdict of \$2 billion of punitive damages against Monsanto. Monsanto, and its parent company, Bayer, have announced that they will appeal these verdicts. But the message from the juries in these trials has been loud and clear: Monsanto can no longer escape responsibility for exposing millions of individuals to a dangerous, cancer-causing product. ■



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