

**Question for written answer E-001633/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Catherine Griset (PfE)

Subject: Stop blaming farmers for glyphosate discharges from industrial and domestic products

According to a study conducted by the German University of Tübingen, additives used in industrial and domestic detergents, particularly washing powder, break down massively in surface water in the form of aminopolyposphonates (AMPA)¹.

As these AMPA molecules are the same as those resulting from the spraying of glyphosate by farmers, in actual fact a significant proportion of the glyphosate concentrations found in European soils and waters are not of agricultural origin, but of industrial and domestic origin.

In other words, some of the glyphosate residues blamed on farmers may ultimately have come from aminopolyposphonates, which are used in Europe in washing powders and detergents, such as anti-scaling products, bleach stabilisers and corrosion inhibitors.

In light of this scientific discovery:

1. Will the Commission carry out comparative studies with the United States, where virtually no aminopolyposphonates are used in detergents, to determine whether it is possible to reduce the use of this molecule in detergents produced and consumed within the Union?
2. Will the Commission take the initiative of undertaking all the necessary research to determine whether other molecules found in rivers or waste water are unduly attributed to the agricultural sector?

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¹ https://www.lepoint.fr/environnement/la-majeure-partie-du-glyphosate-dans-les-rivieres-d-europe-ne-viendrait-pas-de-l-agriculture-01-08-2024-2566935_1927.php#11