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## SUPERWEEDS

In 5 years herbicide use increased by 527 million pounds due to GMOs



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THERE ARE 7 DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF GLYPHOSATE-RESISTANT SUPERWEEDS

1/2 OF ALL US FARMERS HAVE GLYPHOSATE RESISTANT SUPERWEEDS ON THEIR FARMS



ACROSS THE COUNTRY HAVE ONE OR MORE VARIETIES OF GLYPHOSATE-RESISTANT SUPERWEEDS

## GE Crops Have Increased Herbicide Use

**Herbicide applications have increased.** Because GE crops are engineered to withstand heavy doses of the herbicide glyphosate, its use increased by 527 million pounds from 1996 to 2012.<sup>12</sup> Glyphosate is now routinely found in our food, air and water.<sup>13</sup>

**Farmers have turned to more toxic herbicides.** Overuse of glyphosate has led to the growth of “super weeds” that can only be controlled with even more toxic herbicides<sup>14</sup> that are linked to cancer, Parkinson’s disease and reproductive problems.<sup>15</sup>

**Children are especially vulnerable.** Children are especially susceptible to developmental problems caused by toxic herbicides.<sup>16</sup> Nearly 500 American elementary schools are within the “drift zones” of herbicides that pose particular risks to children.<sup>17</sup>

<sup>12</sup> Benbrook CM. “Impacts of genetically engineered crops on pesticide use in the U.S. – the first sixteen years.” Environmental Sciences Europe 24(24). 28 September 2012. Web. 13 November 2014.

<sup>13</sup> U.S. Geological Survey. “Common Weed Killer Is Widespread In The Environment.” 18 September 2014. Web. 13 November 2014.

<sup>14</sup> Mortensen DA, Egan JF, Maxwell BD, Ryan MR, Smith RG. 2012. Navigating A Critical Juncture for Sustainable Weed Management. BioScience 62(1): pp. 75-84.

<sup>15</sup> Environmental Working Group. “2,4-D Herbicide & GE Crops: Human Health and 2,4-D.” 2 June 2014. Web. 13 November 2014.

<sup>16</sup> Morgan MK, Wilson NK, Chuang JC. 2014. Exposures of 129 preschool children to organochlorines, organophosphates, pyrethroids, and acid herbicides at their homes and daycares in North Carolina. Int J Environ Res Public Health 11(4): 3743-64.

<sup>17</sup> Kustin ME, Rundquist S. “Elementary School Students At Increased Pesticide Risk” Environmental Working Group 14 August 2014. Web. 13 November 2014.