



health

Department:
Health
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Forensic Chemistry Laboratory Response to questions from Mr Bhardwaj, a Researcher on health issues at Africa Check (africacheck.org), a News Organisation.

The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) classified glyphosate as a "probable carcinogen". The Forensic Chemistry Laboratories (FCL) do test for Glyphosate.

In 2012/2013 the FCL in Pretoria conducted a mini sample run (survey) of approximately 40 samples. Staples, mostly maize meal, were received by the Laboratory and no Glyphosate was detected. The FCL only tested for Glyphosate and not its metabolite. The MRL for Glyphosate in maize is 2ppm.

The FCL in Cape Town has only tested honey for the presence of Glyphosate. They have not detected any Glyphosate in these samples. The analysis method, however, needs more optimization.

Attached is the regulation (No R. 1047) for easy reference.