

2022 Crop Production Shortcourse

Weed Control
John Byrd

Herbicide Resistance

Prevention and Detection

Selective herbicide use began in the 1940's with the discovery of 2,4-D. This new miracle compound killed many broadleaf weeds without damage to grassy plants, adding a new dimension to crop production. Producers could easily and economically control broadleaf weeds in grass crops that previously required mechanical or hand-removal. Use of these materials spread rapidly and has continued to grow with the discovery and registration of new herbicides.

Weeds vary in susceptibility to herbicides. Some weeds tolerate herbicides while others do not. For example, morningglory and other broadleaf plants tolerate Fusilade 2000, while annual and perennial grasses do not. Herbicide labels and weed response tables in Extension and other publications provide growers with this information. But, there is also variation in control within a particular genus or species. Selected plants of a species normally controlled by a herbicide may require slightly higher application rates for an acceptable level of control. For example, in a particular field or year, Treflan may not control smooth pigweed as well as it does in other fields or years. Similarly, spiny amaranth (also known as spiny pigweed) may not be controlled as well as smooth pigweed. One rarely obtains 100 percent control of any weed species with any herbicide.

A number of factors influence weed control. Lack of control may be attributed to target coverage, application method, herbicide rate, environmental conditions before, during, or after application, or weed size and development at application time.

Lack of control may also be due to the genetic ability of a weed to tolerate or resist the herbicidal properties of the pesticide. The Weed Science Society

of America has defined resistant weeds as "species or a biotype of a species that originally was controlled by a specific herbicide that is no longer effective."

Resistance may not be detected for many years, that is, until a high percentage of the targeted species survive the herbicide treatment. The resistant-weed biotypes survive to produce seed, and the population grows. As the population of resistant weeds increases in relation to susceptible plants, one may suspect resistance, especially if this observation is made more than one year. Factors, such as seed production and longevity, seed survival, germination rate, seedling hardiness, growth rate, and competitiveness of the susceptible and resistant biotypes, influence the speed at which the resistant population grows.

Herbicide resistance has become an issue in Mississippi. By 1992, populations of johnsongrass resistant to the acetyl-coenzyme A carboxylase (ACCase) herbicides [fluazifop-P (Fusilade 2000®) and quizalofop-P (Assure II®)], common cocklebur resistant to imidazolinone herbicides [imazaquin (Scepter®) and imazethapyr (Pursuit®)], common cocklebur resistant to arsenical herbicides [DSMA (DSMA Liquid®, DSMA Slurry®, Ansar 8100®, and other trade names) and MSMA (Crabgrass Killer®, Ansar®, Bueno®, Daconate®, and other trade names)], goosegrass and johnsongrass resistant to dinitroaniline herbicides [trifluralin (Treflan®, Tri-4®, Trilin®, etc.) and pendimethalin (Prowl®)], and ryegrass resistant to a sulfonylurea herbicide [sulfometuron (Oust®)] have been found and resistance confirmed.

Confirming herbicide resistance in a weed population is a slow process. Seed or other propagation material must be collected, plants grown to treatment

size in a controlled environment, treatments applied, and results evaluated. Collected seeds may require an after-ripening period or storage at freezing temperatures before germination occurs. Seedlings from a susceptible parent (preferably one that has never been exposed to the suspected herbicide) must be grown and treated with the resistant seedlings for comparison purposes. This process can require from several months to one year after the initial collection. Fortunately, there is an ongoing effort to develop techniques for quicker resistance detection.

Often, one must evaluate the situation in the field to try to determine the reason for lack of control. If several weed species that should have been controlled by the herbicide are detected, resistance probably is not the cause for lack of control. Likewise, if a pattern of no control can be detected, or if adverse environmental conditions existed at the time of application, the control failure can probably be attributed to factors other than herbicide resistance. If, however, all except one, susceptible weed species were controlled, herbicide resistance might be suspected. When resistance is suspected, contact the local county Extension agent to initiate the process of resistance testing.

Judicious herbicide selection and use can delay the development of a resistant-weed population. Crop rotation is often touted as the primary tactic against herbicide resistance, because crop rotation often mandates use of different herbicides with different modes of action. However, crop rotation may not be necessary if several alternative herbicides are available to enable one to use a herbicide with a different mode of action in that crop. For example, imidazolinone-resistant cocklebur can be controlled in soybeans with other herbicides that have a different mode of action, such as bentazon (Basagran®). Although ACCase-resistant

johnsongrass can be controlled with clethodim (Select®) in cotton or soybeans, no one can determine if or when resistance to Select® will occur. Therefore, it would be wise to use glyphosate (Roundup®) as a wiper treatment, spot treatment, or after harvest for johnsongrass control in cotton or soybeans rather than continued repeated use of clethodim (Select®) on those resistant populations.

Crop rotation will not delay weed resistance if herbicides with similar modes of action are used in the rotation crop. In the example just mentioned, rotation from cotton to soybeans would not help control resistant johnsongrass because many of the same herbicides are used in both crops. But, rotation to corn and use of nicosulfuron (Accent®) or primisulfuron (Beacon®) for johnsongrass control would alternate the herbicide modes of action.

Use of herbicides that contain more than one active ingredient in the formulation, or premixes, may help control certain herbicide-resistant weeds. This will be an effective treatment alternative only if both ingredients were initially effective on that particular weed.

Lastly, if a resistant-weed population has been detected, one should use all available control methods to avoid seed deposition in the field. Hand-removal following cultivation may be economical if the end result is to avoid spread of a herbicide-resistant weed population.

Table 1 contains many of the herbicides routinely used in crop production in Mississippi, along with the modes of action of these herbicides. This information can be useful to plan weed control tactics that include herbicide rotation so that herbicides with similar modes of action, or in the same families, are not repeatedly used year after year.

By John D. Byrd, Jr., Ph.D., Extension Weed Specialist, William L. Barrentine, Ph.D., Plant Physiologist, Delta Research and Extension Center, Stoneville, and David R. Shaw, Ph.D., Professor of Weed Science

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Publication 1907

Extension Service of Mississippi State University, cooperating with U.S. Department of Agriculture. Published in furtherance of Acts of Congress, May 8 and June 30, 1914. HIRAM D. PALMERTREE, Director

Acts of
(2M-9-93)

→ 1993

Publication 1907



January 29, 1996



1996

ANNOUNCING

THE MARKET APPROACH FOR ROUNDUP READY™ SOYBEANS

Monsanto is pleased to announce the market approach for Roundup Ready™ soybeans.

Roundup Ready soybeans received final U.S. approvals last May, when the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced it would allow Roundup® herbicide application over the top of Roundup Ready soybeans. Roundup Ready soybean seed will be available to U.S. growers this spring.

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Roundup Ready soybeans contain patented seed technology, which creates a new relationship among the grower, the seed company and Monsanto. Growers who purchase Roundup Ready soybean seed will sign an agreement to ensure they understand the benefits and responsibilities associated with this new technology before making their purchase decisions. The enclosed brochure and press release provides you with detailed information about the Monsanto Roundup Ready Soybean Grower Agreement.

We appreciate any assistance you can provide in helping soybean growers learn more about the Roundup Ready market approach and use of this new technology. Your role is important in positioning to growers the new responsibilities and benefits that come with biotechnology products. Should you have any questions, or if we can help you further, feel free to contact your local Monsanto Product Development Manager or your Monsanto Local Market Manager.

Sincerely,

B. A. Alesii
Manager, Roundup Ready Soybean Technology

P.S. We are also enclosing Roundup® and Roundup® Ultra Supplemental Labels For Use In Soybeans.

/enclosures (3)

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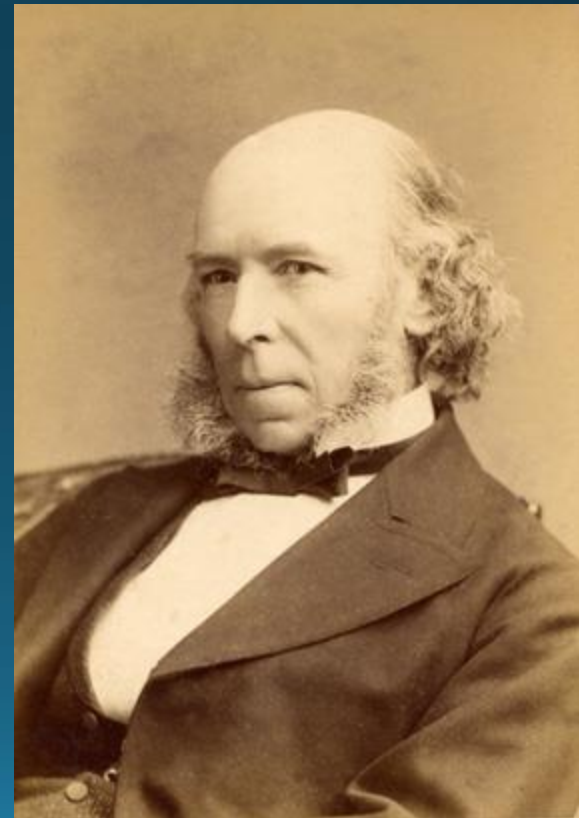
KIP-6

Herbicide resistance management

<http://wssa.net/weed/resistance/>

- Agronomic crops
- Turf
- Non-crop land
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“Survival of the fittest”
Herbert Spencer





**Applying the rigor of science,
strength of humanity, and the
intelligence of nature to
transform our health & our world.**

Zach Bush MD is a physician specializing in internal medicine, endocrinology and hospice care. He is an internationally recognized educator and thought leader on the microbiome as it relates to health, disease, and food systems. Dr Zach founded *Seraphic Group and the nonprofit Farmer's Footprint to develop root-cause solutions for human and ecological health. His passion for education reaches across many disciplines, including topics such as the role of soil and water ecosystems in human genomics, immunity, and gut/brain health. His education has highlighted the need for a radical departure from chemical farming and pharmacy, and his ongoing efforts are providing a path for consumers, farmers, and mega-industries to work together for a healthy future for people and planet.

INTERVIEW

Why Dr. Zach Bush believes herbicides could end life on Earth

Dr. Zach Bush went from developing chemotherapy to fighting pesticide-makers

By **NICOLE KARLIS** PUBLISHED OCTOBER 14, 2019 6:00PM (EDT)



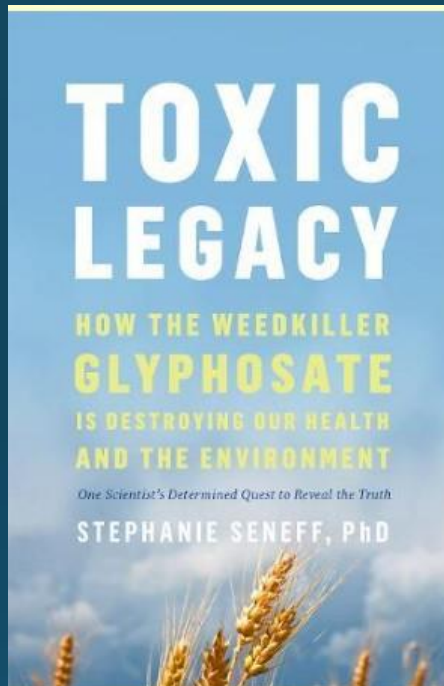
Stephanie Seneff: Anti-crop biotechnology MIT computer scientist morphs into anti-vaccine activist, blames weedkiller glyphosate for COVID pandemic

Updated November 22, 2021 | Genetic Literacy Project



► PROFILE DETAILS

Stephanie Seneff (born 1949) is an MIT computer scientist who alleges that vaccines, prescription drugs, glyphosate and GMO crops paired with the weedkiller glyphosate (Roundup) cause autism, ADHD and other health conditions.^[1] While experts have widely dismissed Seneff as a fringe voice without relevant credentials, alternative health advocates, organic marketers and trade associations frequently promote her. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Children's Health Defense, a prominent anti-vaccine group headed by Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., began to amplify Seneff's speculation about the mRNA vaccines developed by Pfizer and Moderna.



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Concerns over glyphosate pass from human health to the soil

Experts say the weedkiller's impact on soil health represents a serious threat to Europe's long-term food security.



François Peaucellier spikes land on his neighbor's farm to show its level of biodiversity | Simon Marks/POLITICO

BY SIMON MARKS

April 3, 2019 | 6:30 pm

Glyphosate-based herbicides reduce the activity and reproduction of earthworms and lead to increased soil nutrient concentrations

Mailin Gaupp-Berghausen, Martin Hofer, [...], and Johann G. Zaller

[Additional article information](#)

Abstract

Herbicide use is increasing worldwide both in agriculture and private gardens. However, our knowledge of potential side-effects on non-target soil organisms, even on such eminent ones as earthworms, is still very scarce. In a greenhouse experiment, we assessed the impact of the most

1 in 3 People Now Exposed to a Harmful Pesticide

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THURSDAY, Feb. 10, 2022 (HealthDay News) -- One in three Americans is exposed to a common and potentially harmful weed killer called 2,4-D, and children may be especially at risk, new research suggests.



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RESEARCH

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Association between increasing agricultural use of 2,4-D and population biomarkers of exposure: findings from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, 2001–2014

Marlaina S. Freisthler¹, C. Rebecca Robbins¹, Charles M. Benbrook², Heather A. Young¹, David M. Haas³, Paul D. Winchester⁴ and Melissa J. Perry^{1*}

Abstract

Background: 2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (2,4-D) is one of the most extensively used herbicides in the United States. In 2012, 2,4-D was the most widely used herbicide in non-agricultural settings and the fifth most heavily applied pesticide in the US agricultural sector. The objective of this study was to examine trends in 2,4-D urinary biomarker concentrations to determine whether increases in 2,4-D application in agriculture are associated with increases in biomonitoring levels of urine 2,4-D.

Methods: Data from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) with available urine 2,4-D biomarker measurements from survey cycles between 2001 and 2014 were utilized. Urine 2,4-D values were dichotomized using the highest limit of detection (LOD) across all cycles (0.40 µg/L or 0.4 ppb). Agricultural use of 2,4-D was estimated by compiling publicly available federal and private pesticide application data. Logistic regression models adjusted for confounders were fitted to evaluate the association between agricultural use of 2,4-D and urine 2,4-D level above the dichotomization threshold.

Results: Of the 14,395 participants included in the study, 4681 (32.5%) had urine 2,4-D levels above the dichotomization threshold. The frequency of participants with high 2,4-D levels increased significantly ($p < .0001$), from a low of 17.1% in 2001–2002 to a high of 39.6% in 2011–2012. The adjusted odds of high urinary 2,4-D concentrations associated with 2,4-D agricultural use (per ten million pounds applied) was 2.268 (95% CI: 1.709, 3.009). Children ages 6–11 years ($n = 2288$) had 2.1 times higher odds of having high 2,4-D urinary concentrations compared to participants aged 20–59 years. Women of childbearing age (age 20–44 years) ($n = 2172$) had 1.85 times higher odds than men of the same age.

Conclusions: Agricultural use of 2,4-D has increased substantially from a low point in 2002 and it is predicted to increase further in the coming decade. Because increasing use is likely to increase population level exposures, the associations seen here between 2,4-D crop application and biomonitoring levels require focused biomonitoring and epidemiological evaluation to determine the extent to which rising use and exposures cause adverse health

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plant growth regulator. He developed a quantitative measurement of the regulator and thus stimulated considerable research in this area. Kögl and Haagen-Smit from the Netherlands in 1934 (33) reported the isolation of indoleacetic acid (IAA) from plants and human urine and identified it as the principal naturally occurring hormone (later called an auxin) in plants. When humans eat fresh vegetables they ingest the hormone IAA (chemically very similar to the more stable 2,4-D) and excrete it in their urine.



“When humans eat fresh vegetables they ingest the hormone IAA (chemically very similar to the more stable 2,4-D) and excrete it in their urine.”

Burnside OC 1996 The History of 2,4-D and Its Impact on Development of the Discipline of Weed Science in the United States. Pages 5-15 in Biologic and Economic Assessment of Benefits from Use of Phenoxy Herbicides in the United States. USDA NAPIAP Special Report 1-PA-96



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Long term Herbicide exposure has been linked to Parkinson's Disease. Individuals who have been diagnosed with Parkinson's or are experiencing symptoms... See More

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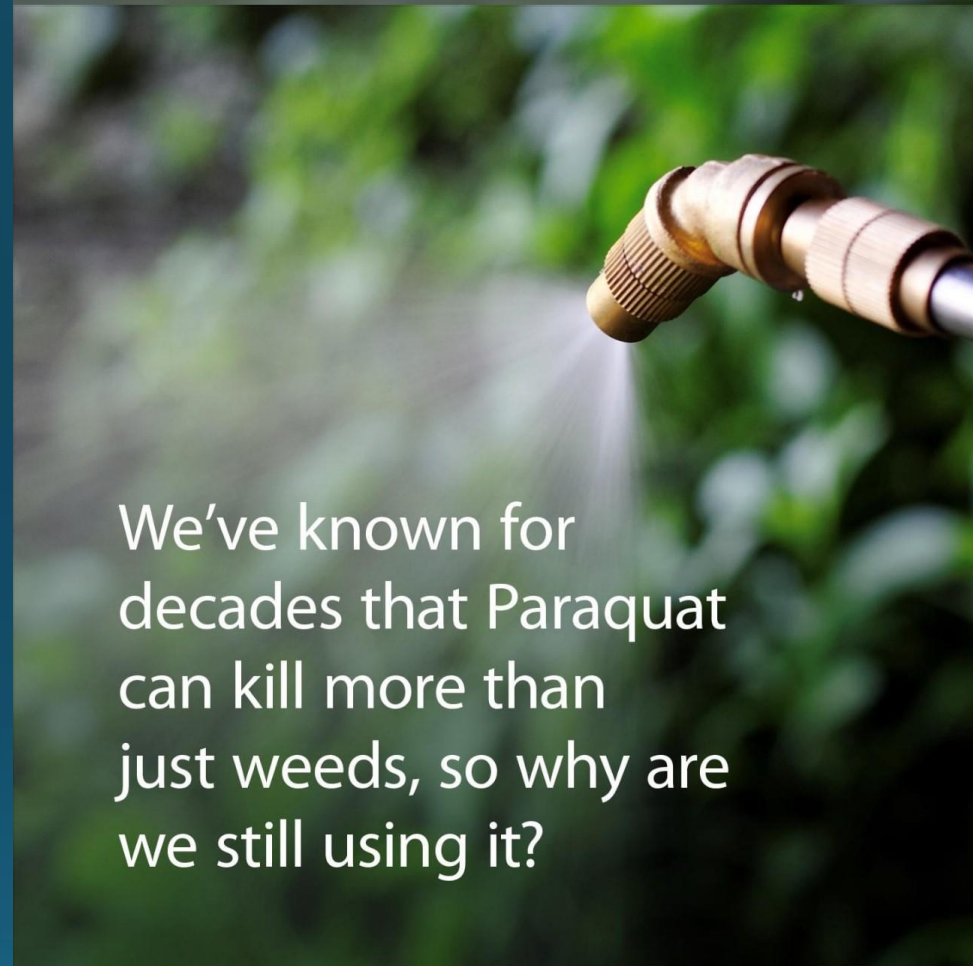


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IMPORTANT: Inhalation is an unlikely route of exposure due to low vapor pressure and large spray droplet size, but mucosal irritation or nose bleeds may occur. Prolonged contact with this concentrated product can irritate your skin.

Personal Protective Equipment

Applicators and other handlers (other than Mixers and Loaders) must wear:

- Long-sleeve shirt and long pants
- Shoes plus socks
- Protective eyewear
- Chemical Resistant Gloves—Category A (e.g., barrier laminate, butyl rubber, nitrile rubber, neoprene rubber, natural rubber, polyethylene, polyvinyl chloride (PVC) or viton).
- A dust mist NIOSH-approved respirator with any N, R, P, or HE filter.

Mixers and Loaders must wear:

- Long-sleeve shirt and long pants
- Shoes plus socks
- Protective eyewear plus a dust mist NIOSH-approved respirator with any N, R, P, or HE filter.
- Chemical Resistant Gloves—Category A (e.g., barrier laminate, butyl rubber, nitrile rubber, neoprene rubber, natural rubber, polyethylene, polyvinyl chloride (PVC) or viton).

Discard clothing and other absorbent materials that have been drenched or heavily contaminated with this product's concentrate. Do not reuse them. Follow manufacturer's instructions for cleaning/maintaining PPE. If no such instructions for washables, use detergent and hot water. Keep and wash PPE separately.

Dec. 15, 2020, USFWS concluded adding the monarch butterfly to the list of threatened and endangered species is warranted, but precluded by higher-priority listings. The monarch remains a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act, and its status will be reviewed each year until it is no longer a candidate.



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Monarchs make a comeback in California

Observers so far counted 50,000 wintering butterflies after counting only 2,000 last year. Scientists speculate why.

By Hillary Andrews
Source FOX Weather

11/22/2021

f t e l

PACIFIC GROVE, CA

06:31 FOX WEATHER WILD

Counting the Monarchs

An official Monarch butterfly counter describes the process.

The monarchs are back again in force to winter along the California coast. After a dismal showing the past three

Migratory monarch butterfly now Endangered - IUCN Red List

Gland, Switzerland, 21 July 2022 (IUCN) – The migratory monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus plexippus*), known for its spectacular annual journey of up to 4,000 kilometres across the Americas, has entered the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ as Endangered, threatened by habitat destruction and climate change. All surviving sturgeon species – also migratory, found across the northern hemisphere – are now at risk of extinction due to dams and poaching, pushing the world’s most Critically Endangered group of animals yet closer to the brink. The tiger (*Panthera tigris*) has been reassessed, revealing new population figures.





The author of *THE SEA AROUND US* and
THE EDGE OF THE SEA
questions our attempt to control the
natural world about us

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HANDBOOK: RESOURCE GUIDE

Mississippi Threatened And Endangered Species



Sandhill Crane



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Dr. David Young	Mississippi Association Agricultural Consultants

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O F M I S S I S S I P P I Endangered Species

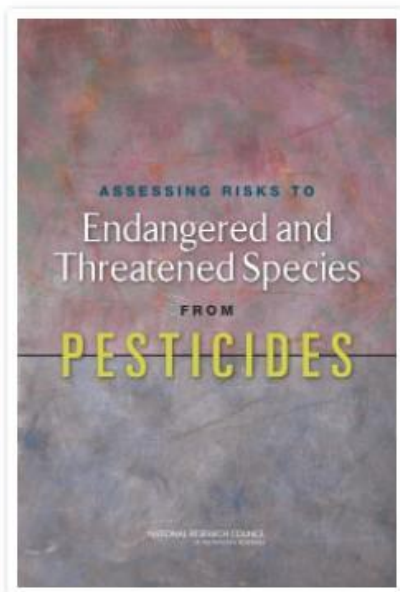
Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks • Museum of Natural Science

As of 1992, 53 species of plants and animals, excluding whales.

Endangered “those in danger of becoming extinct throughout all or a significant portion of their range.”

Threatened “likely to become endangered in the near future in all or a significant portion of their range.”

Listing or changing status begins with Petitioning USFWS or NMFS.



Assessing Risks to Endangered and Threatened Species from Pesticides

(2013)

Consensus Study Report

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National Research Council; Division on Earth and Life Studies; Board on Environmental Studies and Toxicology; Committee on Ecological Risk Assessment Under FIFRA and ESA

RESOURCES AT A GLANCE

Press Release

From the introduction of Assessing Risks to Endangered and Threatened Species from Pesticides

Under the US Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) are responsible for designating species as endangered or threatened (that is, listing species) and determining whether federal actions might jeopardize the continued existence of a listed species or adversely affect its critical habitat. Under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is responsible for registering pesticides and ensuring that pesticides do not cause unreasonable adverse effects on the environment, which includes listed species and their critical habitats. Over the years, EPA, FWS, and NMFS have struggled unsuccessfully to reach a consensus on approaches to assessing the risks to listed species. Consequently, EPA, FWS, NMFS, and the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) asked the National Research Council to examine scientific and technical issues related to determining risks to species that are listed under the ESA posed by pesticides that are registered under FIFRA.



The National Agricultural Law Center Ag & Food Law Blog

17 JAN

Top Ten Agricultural Law Issues in 2019

📌 Categorized [Ag & Food Law Update](#), [Clean Water Act](#), [Endangered Species Act](#), [Environmental Protection Agency](#), [Food Labeling](#), [Hemp](#), [International Trade](#), [Pesticides](#), [Right to Farm](#), [Underserved Communities](#), [BIPOC](#)

- In August, the Department of Interior announced host of new rules that made a series of changes to the **Endangered Species Act (ESA)**. The new rules affect what species receive ESA protections, the designation of critical habitats, and the amount of protection afforded to threatened species. Changes included repealing the “blanket 4(d)” rule, restricting the area that can be designated as critical habitat only to areas that are currently occupied by a species, and restructuring what factors will be considered when listing a species as threatened. The changes quickly prompted backlash, and a lawsuit was filed against the Secretary of Interior soon after the rules were announced. To read more about the changes to the ESA, click [here](#).



([https://nationalaglawcenter.org/a-host-of-new-](https://nationalaglawcenter.org/a-host-of-new-rules-brings-major-changes-to-the-endangered-species-act/)

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27 AUG

A Host of New Rules Brings Major Changes to the Endangered Species Act

(<https://nationalaglawcenter.org/a-host-of-new-rules-brings-major-changes-to-the-endangered-species-act/>)

📌 Categorized Ag & Food Law Update (<https://nationalaglawcenter.org/category/ag-food-law-update/>), Endangered Species Act (<https://nationalaglawcenter.org/category/statutes/endangered-species-act/>)

The Trump administration, on August 12, 2019, announced changes to the Endangered Species Act (ESA). These changes affect what species receive ESA protections, the designation of critical habitats, and the amount of protection afforded to threatened species.

Designation of Species as Endangered

Historically, section 4 the ESA required that the decisions as to which species were to be listed as endangered were based solely on the best available science "without reference to possible economic or other impacts of such determination." The new changes remove this language and allow for economic impacts to be considered. In a press

Trump administration
modified language of ESA
to consider economic
impact of a species as
Threatened or Endangered



Balancing Wildlife Protection and Responsible Pesticide Use: How EPA's Pesticide Program Will Meet its Endangered Species Act Obligations

2022



Triazines and Glyphosate Begin Endangered Species Act Review

The **triazines** are the **first herbicides** to go through EPA's Revised Method for Species Biological Evaluations of Conventional Pesticides. BEs make effects determinations for 1,795 endangered or threatened species and 792 designated critical habitats. EPA's draft BEs for the triazines predict:

- atrazine likely to adversely affect 54% of all species and 40% of critical habitats;
- propazine likely to adversely affect 4% of all species and 2% of critical habitats;
- simazine likely to adversely affect 53% of species and 40% of critical habitats.

EPA issued its draft BE for **glyphosate** November 27, 2020. EPA's draft BEs for glyphosate predict: **glyphosate likely to adversely affect 93% of all species and 96% of critical habitats.**

- EPA model assumes **max rate** of glyphosate applied **every year** on CRP and non-cropland.



EPA misses the mark on farm herbicide evaluations

By Jennifer Whitlock
Field Editor

Farm and ranch groups are frustrated with the final biological evaluations made by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on atrazine, glyphosate and simazine.

Grower organizations, including American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF), say EPA failed to take the groups' comments and real-world scenarios into account before releasing the evaluations showing the three common farm herbicides are "likely to adversely affect" certain listed endangered or threatened species or designated critical habitats.

The agency used unrealistic assumptions about how farmers and ranchers use these chemicals, according to AFBF and the American Soybean Association (ASA).

As an example, the biological evaluation for glyphosate assumed soybean farmers apply 3.75 pounds per acre per application, but a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) survey shows the true rate is only one pound per acre—nearly four times less.

Integrated Vegetation Management on Rights-of-Ways

October 5, 2021 | 2:00 – 3:30 PM ET

Thank you for attending the webinar broadcast on October 5, 2021, a part of the [IPM Webinar series](#) hosted by EPA's Center for IPM.

On this page:

- [Speakers](#)
- [Statistical Information](#)

Speakers

- **John Byrd, Ph.D.** (Mississippi State Univ.) jdb4@msstate.edu
- **Moderator:** Marcia Anderson, Ph.D., EPA Center for IPM (anderson.marcia@epa.gov)

Statistical Information

Registration

- 1177 people from 50 states, and PR, Canada, Costa Rica, Australia, Mexico Albania, Egypt, Oman, Phillippeans, India, Somalia Ecuador, Hong Kong
 - Top states: OR (120); CA (80); FL (66); AZ (53); NY (52)
 - Registration breakdown:
 - 640 Government employees (253 state)
 - 27 Tribal representatives
 - 132 schools / districts/ universities / childcare centers,
 - 356 Agricultural Forester, Master Gardener's
 - 128 Pest management professionals

Participation

- 835 from 49 states plus Canada, PR, and Mexico, Australia, Albania, Costa Rica, Oman
- 68% of those who registered attended
- 37 additional attendees included via shared spaces; = 798+ + 37
- Top states: OR (82); CA (52); FL (38); NC/PA (37); AZ/TX (34)
 - 83 schools / districts / childcare centers / Universities
 - 457 Government employees (187 state)
 - 238 Agricultural Forester, Master Gardener's
 - 98 Pest management professionals
 - 16 tribal representatives

Continuing Education Units Provided 353

ISA - 125

State licensed pesticide applicators - 208

LTEs - 7

SAE - 13

-----Original Message-----

From: Tindall, Kelly <tindall.kelly@epa.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 9:41 AM

To: Byrd, John <JByrd@pss.msstate.edu>

Cc: Orłowski, John <Orłowski.John@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: WSSA Seminar

Hey John,

I just want to take a second and check in with you about tomorrow. Are we all still good to go? Also, I wanted to see if you had any questions. One update on our end - John Orłowski will be facilitating the webinar, so I cc'ed him here to serve kind of as a virtual introduction (although, he spent time in MS, so ya'll may know each other).

Look forward to the talk tomorrow!

Kelly

Threatened and endangered species

1900

~~~1660~~ plants and animals listed as threatened or endangered under the ESA

- Terrestrial and freshwater species - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Marine/anadromous species - National Marine Fisheries Service
- Occur in all 50 states, DC, and territories
- > 500 listed species in Hawaii/Northern Marianas Islands (mostly plants)



Photo by Natalia Tangalin, NTBG

Uhi uhi  
*Mezoneuron kawaiensis*



Nancy Golden



# **ESA Workplan Update: Nontarget Species Mitigation for Registration Review and Other FIFRA Actions**

November 17, 2022

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

# Pesticide Groups: Herbicides

- Develop a broad approach to address spray drift and runoff transport from treated fields to minimize exposure to *listed plants* from herbicides
- Goal is to reduce the likelihood of jeopardy and adverse modification for federally listed plants and species that depend on plants
- For future herbicide biological evaluations and consultations, EPA and FWS would focus on potential effects not addressed in this strategy
  - Example: effects to animals on the treated field or newly listed species



# Next Steps

- EPA will provide additional information and updates on its website as we continue to make progress on these efforts
  - Quarterly updates to ESA Workplan website:  
<https://www.epa.gov/endangered-species/epas-workplan-and-progress-toward-better-protections-endangered-species>
- Upcoming opportunities for public comment
  - Proposed label language in Appendix to ESA update (EPA-HQ-OPP-2022-0908)
  - Proposed Interim Decisions (DCNA, etofenprox, norflurazon, TM/MBC, and more)
  - ESA registration review pilots (methomyl-EPA-HQ-OPP-2010-0751, carbaryl, rodenticides)
  - EPA vulnerable species pilot
  - EPA strategies for herbicides and rodenticides
- Public feedback will inform elements of ESA workplan

# Pesticide Use

- EPA is exploring grouping assessments and mitigations for certain pesticide uses
- Examples
  - Mosquito adulticides
  - Residential uses
- EPA welcomes input from various pesticide user groups to inform these strategies

# Endangered Species Protection Bulletin



**Application Month:** June 2022

**Product:** All products with limitations in selected area

- 1 Areas where pesticide use must be limited are identified on the map. A legend is located beside the map to help pinpoint these locations.

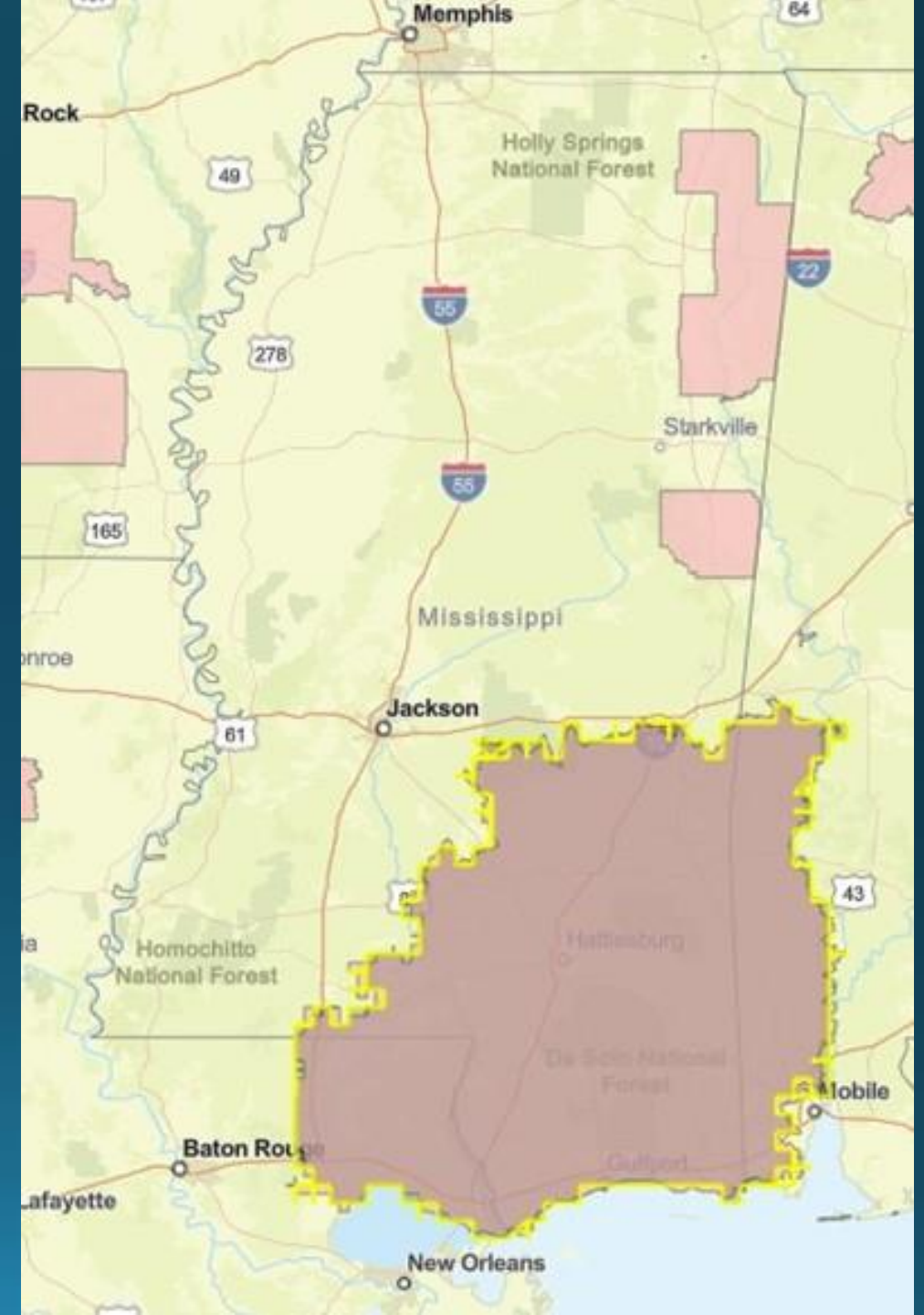


**Legend**  
Limitation Area

- 2 Look below at the Pesticide Use Limitation Summary Table. This table lists the user selected Active Ingredient(s) (AIs) or Product(s) with pesticide use limitations on the printed map. Locate the Active Ingredient (AI) or Product you intend to apply in this table and identify the code in the last column. This code indicates the specific limitation associated with that AI or Product. A limitation description for each code can be found below in the Codes and Limitations Table. If multiple Pesticide Use Limitation Areas (PULAs) are visible on the map, these tables provide information for the highlighted PULA.

If you are applying a pesticide that contains more than one Active Ingredient, or multiple Products, then multiple codes may apply. Follow the limitations for all codes when using this pesticide.

This document contains legal requirements for the use of certain pesticides.  
Do not modify any text, graphics or coloration or otherwise alter this document.  
ESPP Contact: ESPP@epa.gov Phone: 1-844-447-3813



# Endangered Species Protection Bulletin

## Pesticide Use Limitation Summary Table

| Product                                                                                 | AI                          | Use                      | Method       | Form   | Code |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|--------|------|
| FEXAPAN PLUS VAPORGRIP TECHNOLOGY (352-938)                                             | Dicamba, diglycolamine salt | Dicamba-Tolerant Cotton  | Ground spray | Liquid | D120 |
| FEXAPAN PLUS VAPORGRIP TECHNOLOGY (352-938)                                             | Dicamba, diglycolamine salt | Dicamba-Tolerant Soybean | Ground spray | Liquid | D120 |
| XTENDIMAX WITH VAPORGRIP TECHNOLOGY (264-1210) Alternate: M1768 Herbicide               | Dicamba, diglycolamine salt | Dicamba-Tolerant Soybean | Ground spray | Liquid | D120 |
| XTENDIMAX WITH VAPORGRIP TECHNOLOGY (264-1210) Alternate: M1768 Herbicide               | Dicamba, diglycolamine salt | Dicamba-Tolerant Cotton  | Ground spray | Liquid | D120 |
| A21472 PLUS VAPORGRIP TECHNOLOGY (100-1623) Alternate: TAVIUM PLUS VAPORGRIP TECHNOLOGY | Dicamba, diglycolamine salt | Dicamba-Tolerant Cotton  | Ground spray | Liquid | D120 |
| A21472 PLUS VAPORGRIP TECHNOLOGY (100-1623) Alternate: TAVIUM PLUS VAPORGRIP TECHNOLOGY | Dicamba, diglycolamine salt | Dicamba-Tolerant Soybean | Ground spray | Liquid | D120 |

This document contains legal requirements for the use of certain pesticides.  
 Do not modify any text, graphics or coloration or otherwise alter this document.  
 ESPP Contact: ESPP@epa.gov Phone: 1-844-447-3813



Jake Li is the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Pesticide Programs within EPA's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention, where he works on a wide variety of pesticide issues. One of Jake's priorities is to help EPA achieve its endangered species protection goals related to pesticide decisions. Jake brings a broad and diverse set of perspectives to this work, having previously worked on the issue for environmental organizations and industry. Immediately before joining EPA, Jake worked for over a decade in the nonprofit sector on endangered species, natural resource conservation, and chemical regulatory issues. From 2018-2021, he was the Director for Biodiversity at the Environmental Policy Innovation Center, which focuses on working with private landowners and businesses to increase the speed and scale of conservation. From 2010-2018, Jake worked in various positions at Defenders of Wildlife, including as Vice President of Endangered Species Conservation. There, he led the organization's work with agriculture and agrichemical companies on improving the ESA-FIFRA process. This work also involved extensive engagement with federal agencies and congressional offices. Prior to Defenders, Jake represented the regulated community, including chemical companies, as an environmental lawyer at Latham & Watkins, LLP. Jake strives to bring his insights from working with the private sector and environmental groups to find practical, fair, efficient, and durable solutions to how EPA regulates pesticide and other chemicals. Jake has also published widely on wildlife conservation issues and is the coeditor of *Endangered Species Act: Law, Policy, and Perspectives* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed, 2021).

# ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

## Law, Policy, and Perspectives



THIRD EDITION



EDITORS  
DONALD C. BAUR  
YA-WEI LI

ABA  
AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION  
Environment, Energy,  
and Resources Section

ESA symposium, Jan. 31, 2023 1-5 pm est

# Heritage Program

The Mississippi Natural Heritage Program (MNHP) identifies and maps in a spatial database (Biotics) the localities of Mississippi's rarest plants, animals, exemplary natural communities, and special geological features. This database is updated continuously and utilized to portray the distribution of each species, to determine its degree of rarity, and assist with development of state, national, and global priorities for the preservation of natural diversity.



*State-endangered Green Salamander guarding her eggs that can be seen clinging to the wall above her. Photo credit: Tom Mann*

The MNHP, established in 1976 as a cooperative agreement between The Nature Conservancy and the Mississippi Parks Commission, is part of an international network of State Natural Heritage Programs and Conservation Data Centers, all building on the same data collection methodology. Full administration of the MNHP was assumed by

- Obtain status and location of rare organisms, communities
- Maintain information in Biotics Database
- Facilitate conservation
- Manage and promote Natural Areas Registry and Scenic Streams Stewardship Programs

MISSISSIPPI NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM

LISTED SPECIES OF MISSISSIPPI

- 2018 -

|                     | SPECIES NAME                     | COMMON NAME                    | GLOBAL RANK | STATE RANK | FEDERAL STATUS | STATE STATUS |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|------------|----------------|--------------|
| <b>ANIMALIA</b>     |                                  |                                |             |            |                |              |
| <b>BIVALVIA</b>     |                                  |                                |             |            |                |              |
| <b>UNIONOIDA</b>    |                                  |                                |             |            |                |              |
| <b>UNIONIDAE</b>    |                                  |                                |             |            |                |              |
|                     | ACTINONAIAS LIGAMENTINA          | MUCKET                         | G5          | S1         |                | LE           |
|                     | CYCLONAIAS TUBERCULATA           | PURPLE WARTYBACK               | G5          | S1         |                | LE           |
|                     | ELLIPTIO ARCTATA                 | DELICATE SPIKE                 | G2G3Q       | S1         |                | LE           |
|                     | EPIOBLASMA BREVIDENS             | CUMBERLANDIAN COMBSHELL        | G1          | S1         | LE             | LE           |
|                     | EPIOBLASMA PENITA                | SOUTHERN COMBSHELL             | G1          | S1         | LE             | LE           |
|                     | EPIOBLASMA TRIQUETRA             | SNUFFBOX                       | G3          | S1         | LE             | LE           |
|                     | EURYNIA DILATA                   | SPIKE                          | G5          | S1         |                | LE           |
|                     | HAMIOTA PEROVALIS                | ORANGE-NACRE MUCKET            | G2          | S1         | LT             | LE           |
|                     | MEDIONIDUS ACUTISSIMUS           | ALABAMA MOCCASINSHELL          | G2          | S1         | LT             | LE           |
|                     | PLETHOBASUS CYPHYUS              | SHEEPNOSE                      | G3          | S1         | LE             | LE           |
|                     | PLEUROBEMA CURTUM                | BLACK CLUBSHELL                | GH          | SX         | LE             | LE           |
|                     | PLEUROBEMA DECISUM               | SOUTHERN CLUBSHELL             | G2          | S1         | LE             | LE           |
|                     | PLEUROBEMA MARSHALLI             | FLAT PIGTOE                    | GX          | SX         | LE             | LE           |
|                     | PLEUROBEMA OVIFORME              | TENNESSEE CLUBSHELL            | G2G3        | SX         |                | LE           |
|                     | PLEUROBEMA PEROVATUM             | OVATE CLUBSHELL                | G1          | S1         | LE             | LE           |
|                     | PLEUROBEMA RUBRUM                | PYRAMID PIGTOE                 | G2G3        | S2         |                | LE           |
|                     | PLEUROBEMA TAITIANUM             | HEAVY PIGTOE                   | G1          | SX         | LE             | LE           |
|                     | PLEURONAIA DOLABELLOIDES         | SLABSIDE PEARLYMUSSEL          | G2          | S1         | LE             | LE           |
|                     | POTAMILUS CAPAX                  | FAT POCKETBOOK                 | G2          | S1         | LE             | LE           |
|                     | POTAMILUS INFLATUS               | INFLATED HEELSPLITTER          | G1G2Q       | SH         | LT             | LE           |
|                     | PTYCHOBRANCHUS FASCIOLARIS       | KIDNEYSHELL                    | G4G5        | S1         |                | LE           |
|                     | THELIDERMA CYLINDRICA CYLINDRICA | RABBITSFOOT                    | G3G4T3      | S1         | LT             | LE           |
|                     | THELIDERMA METANEVRA             | MONKEYFACE                     | G4          | SX         |                | LE           |
|                     | THELIDERMA STAPES                | STIRRUP SHELL                  | GH          | SX         | LE             | LE           |
| <b>MALACOSTRACA</b> |                                  |                                |             |            |                |              |
| <b>DECAPODA</b>     |                                  |                                |             |            |                |              |
| <b>CAMBARIDAE</b>   |                                  |                                |             |            |                |              |
|                     | CREASERINUS GORDONI              | CAMP SHELBY BURROWING CRAWFISH | G1          | S1         |                | LE           |
| <b>INSECTA</b>      |                                  |                                |             |            |                |              |
| <b>COLEOPTERA</b>   |                                  |                                |             |            |                |              |
| <b>SILPHIDAE</b>    |                                  |                                |             |            |                |              |
|                     | NICROPHORUS AMERICANUS           | AMERICAN BURYING BEETLE        | G2G3        | SX         | LE             | LE           |
| <b>LEPIDOPTERA</b>  |                                  |                                |             |            |                |              |
| <b>NYMPHALIDAE</b>  |                                  |                                |             |            |                |              |
|                     | NEONYMPHA MITCHELLII MITCHELLII  | MITCHELL'S SATYR               | G2T2        | S1         | LE             | LE           |

# MS Natural Heritage Program

99 species of concern state level;

56 species of concern federal level

| SPECIES NAME                   | COMMON NAME                | GLOBAL RANK | STATE RANK | FEDERAL STATUS | STATE STATUS |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|------------|----------------|--------------|
| <b>TESTUDINES</b>              |                            |             |            |                |              |
| <b>CHELONIIDAE</b>             |                            |             |            |                |              |
| CARETTA CARETTA                | LOGGERHEAD SEA TURTLE      | G3          | S1B,SNA    | LT             | LE           |
| CHELONIA MYDAS                 | GREEN SEA TURTLE           | G3          | SNA        | LT             | LE           |
| ERETMOCHELYS IMBRICATA         | HAWKSBILL SEA TURTLE       | G3          | SNA        | LE             | LE           |
| LEPIDOCHELYS KEMPII            | KEMP'S RIDLEY SEA TURTLE   | G1          | S1B,S1N    | LE             | LE           |
| <b>DERMOCHELYIDAE</b>          |                            |             |            |                |              |
| DERMOCHELYS CORIACEA           | LEATHERBACK SEA TURTLE     | G2          | SNA        | LE             | LE           |
| <b>EMYDIDAE</b>                |                            |             |            |                |              |
| GRAPTEMYS FLAVIMACULATA        | YELLOW-BLOTCHED MAP TURTLE | G2          | S2         | LT             | LE           |
| GRAPTEMYS NIGRINODA            | BLACK-KNOBBED MAP TURTLE   | G3          | S2         |                | LE           |
| GRAPTEMYS OCULIFERA            | RINGED MAP TURTLE          | G2          | S2         | LT             | LE           |
| PSEUDEMYX ALABAMENSIS          | ALABAMA RED-BELLIED TURTLE | G1          | S1         | LE             | LE           |
| <b>TESTUDINIDAE</b>            |                            |             |            |                |              |
| GOPHERUS POLYPHEMUS            | GOPHER TORTOISE            | G3          | S2         | LT             | LE           |
| <b>AVES</b>                    |                            |             |            |                |              |
| <b>CHARADRIIFORMES</b>         |                            |             |            |                |              |
| <b>CHARADRIIDAE</b>            |                            |             |            |                |              |
| CHARADRIUS MELODUS             | PIPING PLOVER              | G3          | S2N        | LT             | LE           |
| CHARADRIUS NIVOSUS             | SNOWY PLOVER               | G3          | S2         | PS:LT          | LE           |
| <b>LARIIDAE</b>                |                            |             |            |                |              |
| STERNULA ANTILLARUM            | LEAST TERN                 | G4          | S3B,S3N    | PS:LE          |              |
| STERNULA ANTILLARUM ATHALASSOS | INTERIOR LEAST TERN        | G4T2Q       | S2B        | PS:LE          | LE           |
| <b>RECURVIROSTRIDAE</b>        |                            |             |            |                |              |
| HIMANTOPUS MEXICANUS           | BLACK-NECKED STILT         | G5          | S1B        | PS             |              |
| <b>SCOLOPACIDAE</b>            |                            |             |            |                |              |
| CALIDRIS CANUTUS               | RED KNOT                   | G5          | S2N        | LT             |              |
| <b>CICONIIFORMES</b>           |                            |             |            |                |              |
| <b>CICONIIDAE</b>              |                            |             |            |                |              |
| MYCTERIA AMERICANA             | WOOD STORK                 | G4          | S2N        | LT             | LE           |
| <b>COLUMBIFORMES</b>           |                            |             |            |                |              |
| <b>ACCIPITRIFORMES</b>         |                            |             |            |                |              |
| <b>ACCIPITRIDAE</b>            |                            |             |            |                |              |
| ACCIPITER STRIATUS             | SHARP-SHINNED HAWK         | G5          | S17B       | PS             |              |
| ELANOIDES FORFICATUS           | SWALLOW-TAILED KITE        | G5          | S2B        |                | LE           |
| <b>FALCONIFORMES</b>           |                            |             |            |                |              |
| <b>FALCONIDAE</b>              |                            |             |            |                |              |
| FALCO PEREGRINUS               | PEREGRINE FALCON           | G4          | S1N        |                | LE           |
| <b>GALLIFORMES</b>             |                            |             |            |                |              |
| <b>ODONTOPHORIDAE</b>          |                            |             |            |                |              |
| COLINUS VIRGINIANUS            | NORTHERN BOBWHITE          | G4G5        | S3S4       | PS             |              |
| <b>GRUIFORMES</b>              |                            |             |            |                |              |
| <b>GRUIDAE</b>                 |                            |             |            |                |              |
| GRUS CANADENSIS PULLA          | MISSISSIPPI SANDHILL CRANE | G5T1        | S1         | LE             | LE           |
| <b>PASSERIFORMES</b>           |                            |             |            |                |              |
| <b>EMBERIZIDAE</b>             |                            |             |            |                |              |
| AMMODRAMUS MARITIMUS           | SEASIDE SPARROW            | G4          | S2         | PS             |              |
| AMMODRAMUS SAVANNARUM          | GRASSHOPPER SPARROW        | G5          | S3B,S3N    | PS             |              |



HOME > ACTION > ALERTS > SAVING LIFE ON EARTH: CURRENT ACTIONS



## CURRENT ACTION ALERTS



**[Help Stop This Dirty, Dangerous Pipeline](#)**

TAKE ACTION



**[Tiny Tricolored Bats Need Your Help](#)**

TAKE ACTION



**[Protect Wildlife Refuges From Chemical Poisons](#)**

TAKE ACTION



#22 Great hammerhead (*Sphyrna mokarran*) (c) Shutterstock



## Background

On June 16, 2022, we received a petition from the Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) to list the great hammerhead shark as a threatened or endangered species under the ESA and to designate critical habitat concurrent with the listing. We have previously reviewed the status of the great hammerhead shark for listing under the ESA as a result of two petitions received in 2012 and 2013. We completed a comprehensive status review of the great hammerhead shark in response to these petitions, and based on the best scientific and commercial information available, including the status review report (Miller *et al.* 2014), we determined that the species was not comprised of distinct population segments (DPSs), was not currently in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range, and was not likely to become so within the foreseeable future. Therefore, on June 11, 2014, we published a final determination, the 12-month finding, that the great hammerhead shark did not warrant ESA listing (79 FR 33509).

## Petition Finding

We thoroughly reviewed the information presented in the petition, in context of information readily available in our files, and found that it does not provide any credible new information regarding great hammerhead sharks or otherwise offer substantial information not already considered in our status review report of the great hammerhead shark (Miller *et al.* 2014) and 12-month finding (79 FR 33509, June 11, 2014). As such, we find that the petition does not present substantial scientific or commercial information indicating that the petitioned action may be warranted.

## Listed Species Summary (Boxscore)

 Summary of Listed Species Listed Populations<sup>1</sup> and Recovery Plans<sup>2</sup> as of Wed, 02 Nov 2022 19:42:27 GMT

| Group                    | United States <sup>3</sup> |            |                | Foreign    |            |                | Total Listings (US and Foreign) | US Listings with active Recovery Plans <sup>2</sup> |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|------------|----------------|------------|------------|----------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
|                          | Endangered                 | Threatened | Total Listings | Endangered | Threatened | Total Listings |                                 |                                                     |
| Amphibians               | 23                         | 16         | 39             | 8          | 1          | 9              | 48                              | 27                                                  |
| Annelid Worms            | 0                          | 0          | 0              | 0          | 0          | 0              | 0                               | 0                                                   |
| Arachnids                | 11                         | 0          | 11             | 5          | 0          | 5              | 16                              | 11                                                  |
| Birds                    | 76                         | 23         | 99             | 217        | 22         | 239            | 338                             | 91                                                  |
| Clams                    | 77                         | 16         | 93             | 2          | 0          | 2              | 95                              | 75                                                  |
| Corals                   | 0                          | 7          | 7              | 3          | 15         | 18             | 25                              | 0                                                   |
| Crustaceans              | 25                         | 5          | 30             | 0          | 0          | 0              | 30                              | 22                                                  |
| Fishes                   | 94                         | 76         | 170            | 27         | 9          | 36             | 206                             | 106                                                 |
| Flatworms and Roundworms | 0                          | 0          | 0              | 0          | 0          | 0              | 0                               | 0                                                   |
| Hydroids                 | 0                          | 0          | 0              | 0          | 0          | 0              | 0                               | 0                                                   |
| Insects                  | 75                         | 15         | 90             | 4          | 0          | 4              | 94                              | 64                                                  |
| Mammals                  | 66                         | 30         | 96             | 261        | 23         | 284            | 380                             | 63                                                  |
| Millipedes               | 0                          | 0          | 0              | 0          | 0          | 0              | 0                               | 0                                                   |
| Reptiles                 | 17                         | 29         | 46             | 70         | 24         | 94             | 140                             | 40                                                  |
| Snails                   | 38                         | 13         | 51             | 1          | 1          | 2              | 53                              | 39                                                  |
| Sponges                  | 0                          | 0          | 0              | 0          | 0          | 0              | 0                               | 0                                                   |
| <b>Animal Totals</b>     | <b>502</b>                 | <b>230</b> | <b>732</b>     | <b>598</b> | <b>95</b>  | <b>693</b>     | <b>1425</b>                     | <b>538</b>                                          |

| Group               | United States <sup>3</sup> |            |                | Foreign    |            |                | Total Listings (US and Foreign) | US Listings with active Recovery Plans <sup>2</sup> |
|---------------------|----------------------------|------------|----------------|------------|------------|----------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
|                     | Endangered                 | Threatened | Total Listings | Endangered | Threatened | Total Listings |                                 |                                                     |
| <b>Plant Totals</b> | <b>768</b>                 | <b>172</b> | <b>940</b>     | <b>1</b>   | <b>2</b>   | <b>3</b>       | <b>943</b>                      | <b>809</b>                                          |
| <b>Grand Totals</b> | <b>1270</b>                | <b>402</b> | <b>1672</b>    | <b>599</b> | <b>97</b>  | <b>696</b>     | <b>2368</b>                     | <b>1347</b>                                         |

1270
482
1672

<sup>1</sup>A listing has an E or a T in the "status" column of the tables in 50 CFR 17.11(h) or 50 CFR 17.12(h) (the "List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants"). Note: Listings with status "Similarity of Appearance" are not included in the totals.

<sup>2</sup>22 animal species (14 in the U.S.<sup>3</sup> and 8 Foreign) are counted more than once in the above table, primarily because these animals have distinct population segments (each with its own individual listing status).

### The U.S. species counted more than once are:

- Frog, mountain yellow-legged (*Rana muscosa*)
- Plover, piping (*Charadrius melodus*)
- Salamander, California tiger (*Ambystoma californiense*)
- Salmon, Chinook (*Oncorhynchus (=Salmo) tshawytscha*)
- Salmon, chum (*Oncorhynchus keta*)
- Salmon, coho (*Oncorhynchus (=Salmo) kisutch*)
- Salmon, sockeye (*Oncorhynchus (=Salmo) nerka*)
- Seal, bearded (*Erignathus barbatus nauticus*)
- Sea turtle, green (*Chelonia mydas*)
- Sea turtle, loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*)
- Steelhead (*Oncorhynchus (=Salmo) mykiss*)
- Sturgeon, Atlantic (*Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus*)
- Tern, roseate (*Sterna dougallii dougallii*)
- Wolf, gray (*Canis lupus*)

### The foreign species counted more than once are:

- Argali (*Ovis ammon*)
- Caiman, broad-snouted (*Caiman latirostris*)
- Leopard (*Panthera pardus*)
- Sea turtle, green (*Chelonia mydas*)
- Sea turtle, loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*)
- Shark, Scalloped Hammerhead (*Sphyrna lewini*)
- Vicuna (*Vicugna vicugna*)
- Whale, humpback (*Megaptera novaeangliae*)

<sup>2</sup> There are a total of 643 distinct active (Draft and Final) recovery plans. Some recovery plans cover more than one species, and a few species have separate plans covering different parts of their ranges. This count includes only plans generated by the USFWS (or jointly by the USFWS and NMFS), and only listed species that occur in



al.com

Follow

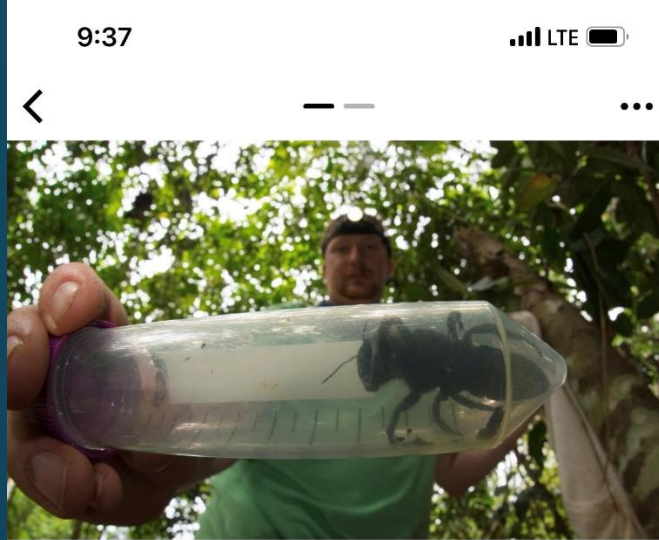
## New swamp-dwelling salamander discovered in Alabama

“This discovery shows us how much more there is to learn even in our own backyards,” lead author R. Alexander Pyron said in a news release.

BY DENNIS PILLION  
MAY 5, 2022

A new species of swamp-dwelling salamander has been discovered in the south Alabama region called “America’s Amazon,” adding another name to the impressive list of amphibian species living there.

Researchers at George Washington University published a study [this week](#) identifying the new salamander and naming it *Desmognathus*



**BIG THINK**

Follow

HARD SCIENCE

## World’s largest bee, thought to be extinct, found in Indonesia

The *Megachile pluto* is about four times the size of a honeybee.

By Stephen Johnson  
February 21, 2019 · 3 min read

In 1859, while exploring the remote island of Bacan in the North Moluccas, Indonesia, the renowned naturalist Alfred Russel Wallace made an astounding discovery: the *Megachile pluto* — the world’s largest bee. Wallace described the bee, which is about four times the size of a honeybee, as a “large black wasp-like insect, with immense jaws like a stag-beetle.” But for more than a



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Nicholas Carlile, scientist with NSW Department of Planning and Environment holds a (hidden) wood-eating cockroach / Credit: Justin Gilligan DPE

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By Cristen Hemingway Jaynes | Apr 15, 2022 10:15AM EDT

ANIMALS



U.S. NEWS

## Rare snake that grows over 8 feet found in Alabama for only second time in more than 60 years

The Eastern indigo found in the Conecuh National Forest is part of a breeding program to reintroduce the species back into the state, officials say.



— The Eastern indigo snake is a large non-venomous snake native to the Eastern United States.

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Mississippi State Department of Health ✓ ·

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Mississippi State Department of Health investigators, in partnership with the CDC, have discovered the bacteria *Burkholderia pseudomallei* living in Mississippi soil.

**This is the first detection of this type of bacteria occurring environmentally in the U.S.** The bacteria can cause melioidosis, a rare disease that can lead to pneumonia and sepsis, and be a serious health risk to those with chronic illnesses. Full details and precautions: <https://msdh.ms.gov/page/23,24573,341.html>



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

July 27, 2022

## Rare Bacteria Discovered on the Mississippi Gulf Coast



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