

China strengthens its grip on global glyphosate supply as Jiangshan launches major new project

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Jiangshan Agrochemical & Chemicals is intensifying its long-term bet on large-scale agrochemical manufacturing, with subsidiary Guizhou Jiangshan CropScience unveiling plans for a sprawling glyphosate formulation complex that would add an annual 100,000-ton glyphosate isopropylamine salt 46 per cent TK production capacity to China's already formidable crop protection supply chain.

The project, recently disclosed through an environmental impact assessment announcement, represents another significant milestone in China's continued consolidation of upstream and downstream agrochemical production capabilities, particularly in strategic herbicide manufacturing.

Located within the Fine Chemical Park of Wengfuan County in Qiannan Prefecture, Guizhou Province, the proposed industrial complex will encompass multiple glyphosate formulation lines, including annual capacities of 100,000 tons of glyphosate isopropylamine salt 46 per cent TK, 100,000 tons of glyphosate isopropylamine salt 46 per cent SL, 40,000 tons of glyphosate ammonium salt SL, and 10,000 tons of glyphosate potassium salt SL, alongside supporting infrastructure and auxiliary facilities.

The scale of the investment reflects the growing industrial ambition behind Guizhou Jiangshan CropScience, a state-backed joint venture established on June 6, 2023 through a partnership between Jiangshan Agrochemical & Chemicals, which holds a 65 percent stake, and Wengfu Group, which controls the remaining 35 percent. Positioned within the Wengfuan County Economic Development Zone, the company serves as the core implementation entity for a broader phosphorus chemical circular economy initiative jointly developed by the two industrial groups.

Previous disclosures indicate the integrated project carries a total planned investment of approximately RMB22 billion, underscoring the magnitude of the industrial ecosystem now taking shape in Guizhou — a province increasingly emerging as a strategic hub for China's resource-linked chemical manufacturing.

Beyond its immediate production implications, the project illustrates the continued centrality of glyphosate within global agricultural supply chains despite mounting regulatory scrutiny and environmental debates across several Western markets. China remains the world's dominant producer and exporter of glyphosate-based herbicides, and integrated manufacturing projects of this scale reinforce the country's structural influence over global agrochemical pricing, supply stability, and raw material access.

Industry analysts note that the inclusion of both technical-grade glyphosate and multiple downstream salt formulations within the same production ecosystem reflects a deliberate effort to strengthen operational efficiency, reduce logistical dependency, and maximize value-chain integration. The project's location within a phosphorus chemical industrial cluster further enhances synergies tied to raw material sourcing and waste-stream optimization — increasingly critical considerations as environmental compliance standards tighten across China's chemical manufacturing sector.

The investment also arrives amid renewed global attention on supply chain resilience within agriculture. Following years of pandemic-era disruptions, energy volatility, and geopolitical trade fragmentation, major agrochemical producers have accelerated efforts to secure vertically integrated production networks capable of stabilizing output and preserving export competitiveness.

For Jiangshan Agrochemical & Chemicals, the Guizhou expansion represents more than incremental capacity growth. It signals a broader strategic alignment with China's industrial policy objectives surrounding advanced manufacturing, regional economic development, and circular chemical integration.

At the same time, the project highlights the evolving complexity of the global crop protection market itself. While sustainability narratives increasingly dominate agricultural discourse, worldwide demand for broad-spectrum herbicides continues to remain structurally resilient, particularly across large-scale row crop systems where cost efficiency and weed resistance management remain operational priorities.

As construction plans advance, the Guizhou project is expected to further strengthen China's commanding position within the global glyphosate industry — a market where scale, integration, and raw material control increasingly define competitive advantage.

In an era marked by agricultural uncertainty, tightening food security concerns, and rising production pressures, Jiangshan Agrochemical's latest expansion suggests that the next phase of agrochemical competition may not simply be about innovation alone, but about industrial endurance, supply dominance, and the ability to manufacture at unparalleled scale.