

Skin Diseases and Burns

- 920 Pruritus in Industry. A.V. Magee.
Practitioner 161, 409 (Nov. 1948).

It is important that a worker who complains of itching that might be due to his work be removed from work immediately. He should remain away from all work, except perhaps in an outdoor job, until he is cured or the itch is proved to be non-occupational. Neglect of these precautions may lead to the establishment of an idiosyncrasy.

-- Condensed from J. Ind. Hyg. & Tox.

- 921 Sensitization Studies with Nail Polish Base Coats. L.K. Halpern and R.S. Weiss. Ind. Med. & Surg. 18, 339-340 (Aug. 1949).

The "prophetic patch test" was performed with nail polish base coat on 200 volunteers with one weakly positive result. This occurred on a previously non-exposed individual on initial application and on re-testing. (2) Eight individuals were tested with a combination of nail polish base coat and nail polish. The one individual who reacted with a weak positive to the base coat alone, responded in the same manner to the combination. (3) Patch testing as performed according to the standard technique, the limitations of which have been mentioned, would indicate that nail polish base coats are not primary irritants and are sensitizers of low potentiality.

-- Authors' Summary

- 922 Contact Dermatitis in Celery Farmers. J.G. Wiswell, J.W. Irvin, E.F. Guba, F.M. Rackemann and L.L. Neri. J. Allergy 19, 396 (Nov. 1948).

There is no record of celery dermatitis in this country until 1939, when the green Pascal variety was introduced. The dermatitis was studied in the workers on sixteen farms and one food-packing plant. The lesions developed on the area of the skin most exposed and certain families of workers seemed to be more susceptible than others. Dark skinned laborers from Jamaica and the Bahama Islands seemed to be immune. The dermatitis is of the contact type and appears to be due to the oil in the celery plant. Dextro-limonene may be a factor in this oil. In a pilot experiment two highly sensitive workers were protected by injections of the celery oil.

-- Condensed from J. Ind. Hyg. & Tox.

- 923 Management of Occupational Dermatoses. D.G. Walton.
North Carolina M. J. 2, 61 (Feb. 1948).

The various agricultural enterprises, manufacturing industries, and chemical and mining industries in North Carolina give rise to a corresponding variety of occupational exposures. More than half of the man-days lost in one year because of occupational diseases were due to dermatoses and irritation of the eyes. Suggestions for reducing this loss of time include: