Monsanto

PCB-G vt Agencies DEC 12

FROM Toronto, Ontario

DATE November 18, 1969

SUBJECT DDT

REFERENCE

TO B. J. S. Weir - Montreal

C°C° Donnalley
J Brydon
J Edmiston
G Stewart
G Wallace
R C Billman
G C Dowell
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File - Agr. Chem

Enclosed is a copy of the speech given by Dr. C. R. Harris at the Canada Weed Committee meeting in London Ontario on November 7, 1969. In the speech he takes a very open-minded unbiased look at DDT and the present conflict surrounding it.

The entire paper is very informative but the most significant statement made that can, and in all likelihood will affect Monsanto is the following quotation, "Complicating the picture is a group of common industrial pollutants, related to DDT, which, it is now recognized, are in themselves high toxic, (more so than DDT-DDE) and produce similar physiological effects on fish and wildlife. These pollutants, known as PCB's (polychlorinated biphenyls) occur commonly in industrialized areas. The picture with regard to these materials is not yet clear, but it seems likely that future work will show that the PCB's are pollutants of equal or even greater importance than DDT-DDE." In talking with Scotty MacLeod, I find that Monsanto makes plastics and plasticizers at our Montreal plant. In this process I am reasonably sure that PCB's (polychlorinated Biphenyls) are utilized and very possibly discharged into the St. Lawrence River. If this is the case, it may well be worth while looking into this now before we are forced to do something by government legislation.

If there are any further questions about the paper, please contact Dr. Harris at the: Canada Department of Agriculture,
Research Branch,
Research Institute,
University Sub Post Office,
London 72, Ontario.

Sincerely,

Bill

W. Verstraete.

WV/mef

Attachments

DSW 255458

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