Monsanto

FROM (NAME & LOCATION): St. Louis

DATE: April 3, 1970

cc: John Mason - JMASO

SUBJECT:

REFERENCE:

TO: Mr. Wm. Papageorge
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WPAPA

I had a conference telephone call today from authorities in the Georgia State Department of Agriculture. The people who called were John Jernigan, Laboratories Division; Mr. J. W. Dendinger, Pesticide Residue Department; and Mr. Harry Johnson, State Chemist.

As you know, this is the state that found PCB's identified as Aroclor 1254 in milk last year. They were at a loss to explain how it got in the milk. They were still testing the herd and the PCB concentration was dropping off until this spring when it took a sudden jump. When checking with the farmer they found the only thing new was that he was feeding fresh silage. You can guess the answer--the silo was painted with a preparation called Coumar Silo Coatine, manufactured by Monteagle Silo Company, Monteagle, Tennessee. It contained 8-1/2% Aroclor 1254. The silage concentration ranged from 20 ppm next to the wall to 2 ppm in the center. The Georgia people were extremely cooperative and were interested in getting data on the toxicity of Aroclor. They do not plan anything drastic but they plan to check the silage from other silos. In fact, they are going to ask Monteagle to give them the names of any customers of theirs in Georgia.

This brings us to an immediate problem. We now have verified information from two states, Georgia and Ohio, that the coating of silos with material containing Aroclor adulterates the milk. I think we will have to get word out to our distributors to stop selling Aroclors for this purpose and to have their customers cease painting the interior of silos or selling the paint as an interior coating. Legal ramifications are obvious but I think it is better than buying an indefinite number of milk herds.

R. Emmet Kelly, M. D.

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