PCB clips

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PCB's from pesticides

DDT and DDE can change into persistent PCB's in simulated sunlight, a pesticide researcher at the University of California, Davis, says that this offers a possible explanation for the worldwide distribution of PCB's, although the effect has only been observed in the laboratory. Since DDT persists up to four years in the atmosphere after application, there is ample time for degradation by the ultraviolet radiation from sunlight. The particular PCB found in the laboratory study to result from DDT degradation is 4,4'-dichlorobenzophenone. Irradiated DDE vapor produces two other PCB's—tri- and tetrachlorinated PCB's.

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