

General Offices

June 16, 1959

2187A

CHLORACNE PROBLEM - GERMAN ARTICLE

Reference: Your memo 6/8/59

Mr. L. C. Weger
Nitro, West Va.

SHOWS THAT
MONSANTO KNEW
IN 1956

[Handwritten signature]

I certainly thank you for the translation of the German article on chloracne. I wish we had been able to investigate the previous difficulties completely enough to isolate the chlorinated dibenzodioxine (diphenylenedioxide) as an important causing agent. Similarly, we would have been quite pleased if Monsanto research or that at Mellon Institute or Kettering Laboratory had developed the information on the 2,3,6,7-tetrachlorodibenzo-dioxine.

The article appears to bear out Dr. Oettel's statement in 1956 that he believed that a chlorinated diphenyloxyde was responsible and that such materials could be produced in any process of chlorination of phenol.

Elmer P. Wheeler

EPW:dh

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