

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS, December 9, 1971

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS 12/9/71

Holly Farms Files Lawsuit Against Chicken Feed Firms

GREENSBORO (AP) — Holly Farms Poultry Industries, Inc., is seeking a total of \$68 million from several firms, including \$56 million from Monsanto Co. alone, as a result of chicken feed contamination.

In the suit, which was transferred yesterday from Wilkes Superior Court to U. S. District Court at Greensboro at Monsanto's request, Holly Farms said the contamination forced it to destroy chickens and eggs.

The Wilkes County firm said the feed was contaminated with the chemical PCB, or polychlorinated biphenyl, because of a leak at the Wilmington plant that processed the feed. It said PCB is potentially toxic to humans.

HOLLY FARMS did not say how many chickens and eggs it destroyed, but it said the number was enough to seriously damage its business. And it said its "good will was, and is, damaged by the apprehension and fear on the part of the general consuming public that chickens were and are contaminated."

Holly Farms alleges Monsanto sold the PCB in violation of its policy when it should have known the intended use of the chemical indicated there was a leak involved. Other defendants are East Coast Terminals, Inc.; South Pacific Protein Association, Inc.; Wilbur-Ellis Co. and the International Proteins Corp.

East Coast, alleged to be the owner of the facilities involved in the contamination at Wilmington; South Pacific, which leased a part of the warehouse where the leak occurred; and Monsanto are being sued jointly

for \$6 million. Wilbur-Ellis is being sued for \$5,250,000 and is an alleged seller of contaminated fish meal; while International Proteins is being sued for \$750,000 for also selling the meal.

To:

C. P. Cunningham
W. R. Corey
W. B. Papageorge
E. P. Wheeler
J. F. Stapleton
Sam Pickard
P. J. A. Marsh
H. S. Bergen
R. A. Stohr

EVJohn