STATUS REPORT ON
THE CHEMISTRY AND TOXICOLOGY
OF POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS (PCB)
OR AROCLORS

AS OF JUNE 1, 1970

[1]Bureau of Foods, Pesticides and Product Safety
Food and Drug Administration
Public Health Service
Department of Health, Education and Welfare
Washington, D.C.

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MONS 037347

...ues at levels of approximately 27 ppm were detected in a sample of shredded ...llected and examined as part of the April-May, 1971 market basket survey. ...of raw materials, packaging materials, and finished products were collected ... follow-up inspection at the manufacturer. Analyses of samples of raw materials ...d wheat from the production line and cleaned wheat and cuttings from bin) ...d no PCB contamination. PCB residues were detected in samples of bleached ...w lined chipboard and boxes used for packaging shredded wheat at levels of ...ppm and 17.6 ppm respectively. Examination of a sample of the finished product ...aged on the day of the inspection disclosed that PCB, if present, were less than ...firmation levels. Analyses of five samples from previous production lots showed ...CB contamination of the shredded wheat in all five samples ranging from 0.3 to ...9 ppm. Follow-up inspections of the plants fabricating the packaging materials showed that recycled paper was being used to make the boxes and dividers.

In August 1971, Cincinnati District analyzed samples of various packaging materials. PCB residues ranged from 1.9 to 433 ppm. The highest level was detected in a box intended to be used in packaging saltines.

4. PCB CONTAMINATION DUE TO LEAKAGE OF HEAT EXCHANGE FLUID

Heat exchange fluids containing PCB are used in certain pasteurization equipment. Problems to date have involved direct PCB contamination of animal by-products intended for animal feed purposes.

Leakage of the heat exchanger fluid from equipment at the East Coast Terminal, Wilmington, N. C. caused the PCB contamination of fish meal which was then used as a component of animal feed.. Analyses of 166 samples of shell eggs from chickens fed the contaminated feed showed 117 samples with PCB levels ranging from a trace to 4.2 ppm. PCB residues in 55 samples were above 0.5 ppm. Fourteen of 29 samples of catfish fed PCB contaminated fish meal were found to contain PCB residues ranging from a trace to 3.1 ppm.

Since the incident at East Coast Terminal, suspected leakage of PCB from equipment has allegedly caused contamination of animal by-products and animal feeds at three other plants. Investigations of these other plants are continuing.

5. PCB IN PAINT AND SEALANT

In 1970 dairy silos treated with paint and sealant containing PCB resulted in extensive contamination of dairy herds and raw milk in Ohio and Kentucky. Reportedly, paint and sealant with PCB has since been removed from the market.

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