MONSANTO INDUSTRIAL CHEMICAL COMPANY, EUROPE

RESEARCH MONTHLY REPORT

FUNCTIONAL PRODUCTS

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SPECIALTY PRODUCTS

Electrical Aroclors

We are experiencing considerable difficulty in maintaining one of the two species of fish in our Ruabon pond experiments. The ponds were stocked originally with goldfish and golden orfe and in 4 of the 5 ponds the latter species had completely disappeared. It is not clear whether this is due to cannibalism or other causes but is not an effect of PCB since the ponds had not been dosed at that stage. We shall now continue the experiment using goldfish only and extra fish are being placed in the 3 pools which had been emptied in order to investigate disappearance of the orfe. The two established pools have been dosed with 1242 and 1016 respectively and the first fish samples are now being analysed.

A detailed programme has been drawn up for investigation of plant process parameters which could affect the penta/hexa chlorinated biphenyl content of Aroclor 1242. with the objective of reducing this to a minimum without fractionation.

A technical visit to Rumania was made to investigate a complaint of poor breakdown strength. We were not able to persuade the customer to use or treat the material which appears to have an abnormally high water content.

SPECIAL CHEMICAL SYSTEMS

Foundry Chemicals

Silestar AR is becoming firmly established as a result of our technical service work over the past few months. Continued effort will be needed to maintain and capitalise on this situation. Work also continues to establish consistent product quality.

Syton

Repco spinning trials at WIRA have now been completed and will be discussed in detail with WIRA and independently with our distributors.

Santocels

Santocel 68 has again been shown to be superior to Grace Syloid 165 as a stir-in grade.

Zinc Silicate Paints

Considerable interest is now being aroused in Monsanto products particularly Silester ZNA because of its patent free aspect. Tests at the Paint Research Station show good results after 3000 hours for all formulations. Technical bulletins on ZNA and ZNS have been approved for publication. They will include patent free formulations.

Dequest

A further programme of work has been agreed with CEGB on boiler cleaning in which they have specified the conditions under which they wish to co-operate.

RAB/SMA:
5.9.72.

R.A. BAXTER