56-88 WATER AND
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Scientists fear damage to man from PCB compounds

Environmental damage from polychlorinated biphenyls, PCB's, will equal that of DDT say some government researchers.

PCB's contain chlorine, hydrogen and carbon in a relatively insoluble form but are soluble in animal fat and extremely persistent.

US research indicates that PCB's play havoc with the natural course of sex hormones controlling the reproductive processes in birds and other animals.

There is also some reason to suspect that repeated ingestion of high PCB doses by humans could have similar unbalancing effects on man's hormones.

Monsanto Chemical Company manufactures PCB's under the trade name of Aroclor for use in insulation and fire resistant applications.

Monsanto refuses to release any production figures for Aroclor although some ecology groups claim it is used in plastic food wraps, tires, house paints, cellophane and asphalt.

Scientific identification of PCB's is difficult since they are hard to distinguish from DDT in specimens and there is no consistent explanation for how the chemical becomes so widely dispersed.

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