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B2SA
Monthly report

Business Situation.

There has been a general increase in interest by pollution control agencies in Germany and Holland. The Dutch Fish institute and the Institute of Marine study have both requested samples. The Pharmacological institute, Hamburg and the German Ministry of Youth, Families and Health have requested meetings and the Dutch Ministry of Health has asked for Monsanto co-operation in limiting use of PCBs.

Further steps have been taken to ensure that Santotherm FR is not supplied to food and pharmaceutical applications in line with the previously agreed policy. The product is on permanent allocation with Brussels marketing approving each shipment. Past 18 months shipments are being checked for identification of application and all district salesmen and sales managers advised again to ensure they are fully aware of Monsanto policy.

The final contract for Purle incineration service awaits approval from Purle lawyers.

A UK dry type transformer manufacturer has been exploiting the PCB issue to discourage use of Pyroclor but has now agreed to crease at our request.

Biodegradation Studies.

The capillary column GLC analysis of the residues of Aroclors degraded by C₂ and C₃ cultures are now showing some very interesting results.

For Aroclor 1016, it now appears that all significant isomers can be degraded by both C₂ and C₃. The longest-lived isomers show half-lives of the order of 30 days. The pattern of degradation for Aroclor 1242 is different and greater differences between the effects of C₂ and C₃ can be seen. This may be due to toxic effects of some of the more highly chlorinated isomers, but this is speculation. It is interesting that some isomers, which do not degrade when treated singly, do so when present in the product composition. This implies that, in the presence of other isomeric combinations, the culture will adapt to degrade these more resistant isomers.

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It is encouraging that almost complete degradation of Aroclor 1016 now appears to be possible with micro-organisms.

General.

We had a meeting with Ian Prestt, Deputy Director of the Central Unit on Environmental Pollution (Ministry for the Environment) to discuss their proposed paper to the OECD meeting in Paris next October. A draft of this paper will be submitted to us for comment.

The next meeting of the PCB Discussion Group organised by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Pest Infestation Control Laboratory) has been arranged for 17 September at Chelsea College of Science and Technology. We have been invited to contribute and propose to talk about developments in analytical techniques.

CRE.

PP

H.A. VODDEN.

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