

Use of DDT Is Defended by Chemical Industry Spokesmen

By JAMES N. STAPLES

MADISON, Wis.,—Spokesmen for the large American agricultural chemical industry are testifying at a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources hearing here to protect industry status in the pesticide DDT, which environmentalists are trying to outlaw.

Although the issue is whether DDT should be declared a pollutant of Wisconsin waters and therefore be banned in this state, the hearing being conducted with all the legal trappings of a court case is being watched throughout the world as an important precedent maker.

And although the primary question raised at first was whether DDT endangers rarest forms of wildlife, its potential effects on the human race has become the central theme of protection testimony.

Since the "Industry Task Force on DDT" began its session on April 21, Wilfred S. Stoffer of Madison, its chief counsel, has developed two lines of counterattack against the opposing lineup of scientists who testified during the week for the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) of Poughkeepsie, N.Y., which is leading the prosecution for local petitioners.

Lines of Defense

One is to present the best available scientific claims to directly oppose allegations of DDT's harmful effects. The other is to raise doubts about the scientific accuracy of opposition laboratory findings by introducing a new chemical villain, a non-pesticide called "PCB," which is similar in structure to DDT.

In the traditional reversal line, Stoffer last week called Dr. Wayland J. Hayes, former chief

of toxicology for the U.S. Public Health Service, who essentially is no danger to the public under current DDT usage, either from residues in food or from environmental exposure to the pesticides of DDT in total dose for people.

Malcolm Central

Furthermore, he said, DDT has essentially eradicated malaria in the United States and, in some places, by killing mosquitoes, "DDT still remains the most important single tool for control of malaria."

Dr. Hayes, and have said that for such results can be expected in other diseases as well. It is agreed that the average American now has less than 10 to 11 parts per million of DDT in body tissues.

Dr. Hayes argued that there is no danger to the public under current DDT usage, either from residues in food or from environmental exposure to the pesticides of DDT in total dose for people.

Furthermore, he said, DDT has essentially eradicated malaria in the United States and, in some places, by killing mosquitoes, "DDT still remains the most important single tool for control of malaria."

Dr. Hayes, and have said that for such results can be expected in other diseases as well. It is agreed that the average American now has less than 10 to 11 parts per million of DDT in body tissues.

control for insects attacking used in specific industrial applications. It is expensive and no one would knowingly waste it.

He said gas chromatography is a sensitive method to detect and differentiate between PCBs. The industry may conclude that DDT is more accurate, he held, in within another two weeks.

The Madison spokesman said that after that will come a second hearing in conducting re-followed by rebuttal and then the PCB residual amounts to be decided until late summer.

the environment and to determine whether some other related substance might not be naturally occurring in PCB after entering the environment.

Nearby Conclusions

His light is being carried on the back of Victor J. Van der Pijl, of Poughkeepsie, the other witness showed that DDT causes harmful changes in the behavior of the fish.

Yamamoto said winter pre is essential, probably producing a parade of witnesses people, which could lead to the who offered scientific proof that human genetic changes.

The petitioners against DDT, inspired by birds of prey, are the Citizens Natural Resources Association of Wisconsin, the Division of the Inland Waters League and the Michigan Audubon Society.

At the hearing by Victor J. Van der Pijl, of Poughkeepsie, the other witness showed that DDT causes harmful changes in the behavior of the fish.

Yamamoto said winter pre is essential, probably producing a parade of witnesses people, which could lead to the who offered scientific proof that human genetic changes.

the petitioners against DDT, inspired by birds of prey, are the Citizens Natural Resources Association of Wisconsin, the Division of the Inland Waters League and the Michigan Audubon Society.

At the hearing by Victor J. Van der Pijl, of Poughkeepsie, the other witness showed that DDT causes harmful changes in the behavior of the fish.

Yamamoto said winter pre is essential, probably producing a parade of witnesses people, which could lead to the who offered scientific proof that human genetic changes.

MONS 030743