SUMMARY OF TOXICOLOGICAL STUDIES ON COMMERCIAL PCB's

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To assess the hazards of PCBs, chronic feeding studies with Aroclors 1242, 1254 and 1260 in rats and dogs were conducted. In addition, three generation, two litter reproduction studies and teratology studies in albino rats and a dominant lethal mutagenic study in mice as well as toxicity and reproduction studies in chickens were conducted.

Conclusions

1. The no-effect level for the Aroclors in the chronic rat and dog studies is about 10 ppm.
2. No teratogenic or mutagenic effects were found.
3. No hepatocellular carcinomas were present.
4. The no-effect level in the rat reproduction study is between 1 and 10 ppm and is the result of low mating indices.
5. In the chicken reproduction and teratology studies, effects were more severe with Aroclor 1242 with the no-effect level being 2 - 4 ppm.