MONSANTO CONFIDENTIAL

FROM (OFFICE & LOCATION): W. B. PAPAGEORGE - ST. LOUIS

DATE: November 17, 1970

CC: J. Mason
H. Bergen
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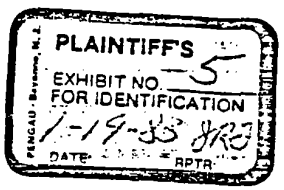
REFERENCE:

TO: FILE



Visited with Mr. George Schwarzwalder, owner and operator of a dairy farm and registered Holstein cattle breeder in Wayne County, Ohio and his son Stephen Schwarzwalder on November 17, 1970.

1. Mr. Schwarzwalder had his silo enlarged by adding an extension in 1967. He did not know what type of coating the old silo had received in the past but in 1967 the interior surfaces appeared to be bare.

2. The cumar coating was applied to both the new and old concrete block surfaces by representatives of Michigan Silo Company. The surfaces were not given special treatment but were wire brushed to remove loose particles. No heat curing was used.

3. The silo was filled with silage about one month after the coating was applied.

4. Silage consisted of chopped corn (stalks, leaves, ears, etc.). Nothing else was added.

5. The silo is an open type which is filled from the top. Silage is removed by a rotating conveyor which removes the silage from the top and conveys it to openings in the side of the silo, then to a chute to ground level. The rotating conveyor is supported by a cable and rides the sidewall on semi-pneumatic tires on approximately 12 inch wheels. The gear box is a closed system containing gear oil which they change only once per year when the silo is empty.

6. George Schwarzwalder believes the coating was probably intact for at least the first year in service. He was informed in the Spring of 1969 that DDT in very barely detectable quantities was found in his milk. Since the quantities were small and because he doubted strongly that DDT was present, no action was taken. Shortly after this incident the cattle were put on pasture and the presence of DDT was not detected.

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The silage which was later found to be contaminated was stored in the silo in October 1969. DDT was again detected in mid-February, 1970. This "DDT" was finally identified as PCB and the source was traced to the silage by mid-March. At this time the cattle were quickly converted to purchased hay.

7. The PCB content of the milk was determined at .3 - .4 ppm. One cow produced milk as high as 1.4 ppm.

8. During the period Jan-Feb-March, which Mr. Schwarzwalder refers to the "high PCB period", he claims he lost 20 new-born calves (2-3 days old) valued at $100 each. He also claims that he had unusually high incidence of false pregnancies.

9. Since March, the cows are reproducing normally. The milk is acceptable but I could not find out the current PCB content.

10. The operation appears to be back to normal with all silage feed to the herd stored in a new silo. However, Mr. Schwarzwalder claims his herd's reputation has suffered. He gave as an example his recent experience at a registered cattle auction. He was able to sell a first generation cow for $1200 and a second generation cow for $1400 but could get only $500 for a heifer representing the third generation.

11. I inspected the old silo and noted that the coating on the top unused ten feet was intact. The remaining surface had very little evidence of any remaining coating. Samples of the surface and a piece of the concrete framing one of the side openings were taken for analysis.

12. Samples of the old silage near the wall and at the center were taken for analysis.

13. I asked for samples of the current milk production several times but each time I was told the truck had just emptied the system and none was available.

14. A sample of the silage from the new silo was taken from the conveyor located at the bottom of the silo.

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15. I attempted to discuss with Mr. Schwarzwalder possible ways in which he felt he and others like him could be helped. He was not too anxious to talk but did mention the pesticide indemnity program and felt that PCB should be treated in like manner. He suggested the Farm Bureau as being a strong organization which might be able to help. Mr. Bill Swank is the Ohio State Farm Bureau executive and is located in Columbus, Ohio.

16. Mr. Swank believes that the problem is not as widespread as Dr. Hill had suggested because it's his understanding that Michigan Silo Company applied cumar coating only to old surfaces and used a different coating on new silos.

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