

Monsanto

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FROM : J. D. Wilson - 4-8879 - G3WG

DATE : May 5, 1982

SUBJECT : On Dioxins and Their Names

REFERENCE : JDW memo 4/1/82 to SGC, LJO

TO : S. G. Collins - A3NC
L. J. O'Neill - A3NC

T. W. Bistline - E2ND
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Wrong again for the first time! It turns out that my assertion in the reference that the compound "dioxin" was unknown was made from ignorance. In fact, dioxin was prepared in the late 1940s and has been studied fairly extensively since. It reacts readily with air and can be kept only in a carefully controlled environment.

This broadens the range of technically correct responses we can give to questions about "dioxins." ("Did you find any dioxin?" "No." We will not ever look for dioxin itself in an environmental sample because it disappears too fast.) It also emphasizes the need to be precise in these kinds of situations.


J.D. Wilson

/hmv

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