Monsanto

FROM (LOCATION) St. Louis

DATE March 30, 1970

SUBJECT

REFERENCE

TO W. B. Papageorge
WPAPA

cc: H. S. Bergen - HBERG
H. L. Minckler - HMINC
P. S. Park - PPARK
J. E. Springgate - JSPRI

We have been in communication with a Dr. Hill of the Ohio State Board of Health. He has found PCB, particularly Aroclor 1254, in samples of milk from at least three herds in Ohio. He has traced this contamination back to silage from three different silos. Dr. Hill reported concentrations of 0.2 ppm of PCB in the silage in the center of the silo and up to 20 ppm in the material next to the walls. He also stated that concentrations in the milk were between 0.1 ppm and 0.6 ppm and that some of the milk had been destroyed.

The silos are concrete silos whose interior surfaces were painted in 1967 using a formulation that contained 1254. I don't know if there was any other Aroclor in the formulation nor do we know the coating manufacturer; although, this could be found out if important. The presence of PCB in the silage came from flaking off of the material and possibly from leaching out during the silage storage. At present they will have to destroy about 150 tons of silage which is valued at about $30 per ton. As a rough guess, they consider there may be 50 other silos involved in Ohio that were painted with the same formulation. They are also looking into the fat contamination of the cows themselves.

All in all, this could be quite a serious problem, having legal and publicity overtones.

This brings us to a very serious point. When are we going to tell our customers not to use any Aroclor in any paint formulation that contacts food, feed, or water for animals or humans? I think it is very important that this be done. It may be that some of the customers will assure themselves on the basis of non-extractability that a particular formulation might be safe but I think we should make a blanket recommendation against these uses.

R. E. Kelly

R. Emmet Kelly, M. D.

REK/ln

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