

Monsanto

FROM : D. Wood - B2SD - 2623
THRU - LOCATION - PHONE:

DATE : October 30, 1979

SUBJECT : CALL REPORT - DAN BENCH
DENVER EPA - OCTOBER 26th

REFERENCE

TO : CALL REPORT

cc E. T. Mollica
J. C. Weber
F. G. Wohlschlaeger
R. A. Stohr
C. F. Callis
J. G. Ortiz
R. C. Isham

NOV 1 1979

Dan called to give us a status report on Lafayette, Colorado incident.

The 17 drums have been lifted and placed in oversize open top steel drums to reduce risk of further escape. The drums are still on the farm inside a fenced off area. The next problem is to get them disposed of or incinerated. I re-emphasized our suggestion that Denver EPA should seek Region 6 cooperation in burning these 17 drums as part of the November 5th trial burn at Houston. I also reminded him that Region 10 had permitted Chem Nuclear to store PCBs pending incineration.

Dan reported alerts on several other PCB exposures in Colorado. He could not give much detail since they might involve release of product by another agency and they had not yet investigated thoroughly.

Dan to help our understanding listed for me the present results on some of their tests on the Darling incident.

Mrs. Darling - milk	1.8 ppm
Mrs. Greenberg - milk	2.5 ppm
Eggs	2.3 ppm
Chicken (1)	65 ppm
Chicken fat	37.5 ppm
(average 4 chickens)	
Cat	34 ppb
Cows	5 ppb except for 2 at 17 ppb/7 ppb respectively
Cows' milk	2.5 ppb
House dust	3.6 ppm
Turnips	0.08 ppm
Hay (Garden)	0.08 ppm
Hay (Near Barrels)	0.08 ppm
Tomatoes	<0.01 ppm
Green Beans	0.13 ppm
Soil at 6 inch	53 ppm
Soil at 12 inch	<1 ppm

MONS 001601

Dan recognized that getting the drums off site was a high priority if they are to take advantage of November 5 burn. The chicken and egg levels are above FDA tolerances. The cow and cow milk levels are below FDA tolerances.

As we suspected, plant uptake had not been high. I referred Dan to State University of North Carolina who had some results in this area.

Dan asked what information existed on average PCB levels in mother's milk. I referred him to the 1976 EPA report and suggested he call Dr. Savage at Colorado State who had been, we believed, following up on that work.

He asked if there was any data on blood serum levels. I told him that I could not recall any paper that gave these on a wide geographic basis but that some data should be available from the Selikoff Mt. Sinai data.

We agreed to maintain contact.



D. Wood

DW:pb

MONS 001602

R. A. Stone
B3N5

MONS 001603

Monsanto

FROM : D. Wood - B2SD - 2623
(ADDRESS - LOCATION - PHONE)

100
2. file

DATE : October 15, 1979
SUBJECT : Karen Newman
Rocky Mountain Journal-Oct. 12th

CC: J. C. Weber
J. Ortiz
F. Provorny

TO : R. C. Isham - BLND

Karen is covering the Lafayette Therminol FRI incident and had been given my name by Bob Harding, Denver EPA.

Q. When did Monsanto phase out of PCBs?

A. Started in 69-70. Final sales of dielectric grades in 77.

Q. When did Monsanto become aware that PCBs might be a problem?

A. Related Swedish work in 67-68, Yusho, confirmation of presence in U.S. environment leading us to begin phase out in 69.

Q. Do we believe that PCB is as dangerous as EPA do?

A. Different EPA representatives seem to have widely varying perceptions of the hazards associated with PCBs, often depending on how close they have been to the regulatory evolution. While we at Monsanto believed that the persistence of PCBs and the accumulation in the environment were good reasons to replace them in industry the hazards of PCBs are frequently overstated.

Q. We understand you talked to Wayne Darling. He reported that he had been told by Monsanto that PCB could not cause cancer. Is that true?

A. We told Mr. Darling that PCBs had been identified by the scientific community as 'suspect carcinogens in test animals' but that the most recent study on Aroclor 1254 carried out by NIH had indicated that Aroclor 1254 was not a carcinogen, and that tests in Atlanta had shown Aroclor 1242 to have less effect than 1254 on test animals. Epidemiological studies to date had shown no causal relationship between PCB and cancer in humans. I did not believe myself that PCB was a carcinogen.

Q. Does PCB cause birth defects?

A. In the Yusho incident babies had been slightly lower than average weight at birth and in some cases skin pigmentation occurred. These symptoms had rapidly disappeared. We are not aware of any other birth defects related to PCB.

D. Wood
D. Wood

DW:pb

MONS 001604