



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

NOV 12 1973

Ms. Beryl McCullar
Hearing Clerk
Food and Drug Administration
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 6-86
Rockville, Maryland 20862

Dear Ms. McCullar:

We noted in the Federal Register of September 28, 1973, the FDA rule concerning the presence of asbestos particles in food and drugs. We have reviewed the information especially that which refers to talc since talc often appears as an inert ingredient in pesticide formulations.

A recent study by one of our laboratories on the microscopic analysis for asbestos on 29 pesticide samples indicated that the talc present contained the asbestos mineral, tremolite, and not chrysotile. We believe there is no great concern for asbestos contamination in pesticides. It is unlikely that pesticide usage in the home or in agriculture will add any significant quantity of chrysotile to the environment or be of any health significance.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Henry J. Korp".

Henry J. Korp
Deputy Assistant Administrator
for Pesticide Programs

5 Enclosures
Copies of comments

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