ATLANTA PAPER
8/24/71

TO DEROUSH

FYI

CLC

Shipment of Georgia Eggs Found Tainted

The State Agriculture department said Monday an unacceptable level of an industrial chemical has been found in at least one lot of fresh eggs producted on a Georgia farm.

Agriculture Commissioner Tommy Irvin said the eggs have been withdrawn from sale and that his department, cooperating with federal agencies, is strengthening a monitoring program sufficiently to protect the public and the egg industry.

A department spokesman said the eggs from a Hall County farm were found to contain 3.5 parts per million of a chemical called polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB).

The chemical is related to the chlorinated hydrocarbon family of which the insecticide DDT is a member, and the tolerance established by the federal government is 0.5 parts per million. ← ?

The chemical was first discovered in fishmeal used in chicken feed after an accident in a Wilmington, N.C., fish meal processing plant.

The department spokesman said medium and large eggs from the Hall County farm, which was not identified, were found to be acceptable.

Irvin said all Georgia eggs are being checked at the farm before entering trade channels and that federal agencies are monitoring them as they cross state lines.

Georgia is the second largest egg producing state in the nation, with egg production accounting for $200 million in farm income annually.

MONS 031817