

Araclo

R.A. Lidgett - Huabon

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W. Richard, St. Louis
R.L. Keller ✓
 R.A. Baxter, Huabon
 H.A. Vodden, "

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RAL/meb

E. SCOTT-TUCKER - Applied Sciences Group, St. Louis

We are at present attempting to extend the use of capillary columns to the identification of p.c.b.'s present at low levels in samples of natural origin. This is being done alongside the work on the examination of possible biodegradation of 1242.

We feel that there is a need for columns capable of high resolution in p.c.b. analysis especially when extracts containing p.c.b.'s of unknown composition are present. This need was, I think, evident in the chromatograms shown to me by the Laboratory of the Government Chemist where the Araclo could have been that postulated (1260) or a partly degraded Araclo of lower chlorine content.

I should be grateful if you would let me know if you have done any work on capillary columns and, if so, any comments on the feasibility of their use at low p.c.b. levels would be welcome (our evidence at present is that below approximately 50 ng decomposition during gas chromatography may preclude use).

RL

R.A. LIDGETT