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FEED FOUND CONTAMINATED; 77,000 CHICKENS ARE KILLED

WILKESBORO, N.C., July 27 (AP) -- At least 77,000 broiler chickens have been destroyed by a packing company here after tests showed that some of them had been contaminated by a chemical suspected of causing birth defects and liver damage in experiments on mice.

The chemical, polychlorinated biphenyl or PCB, was discovered in autopsies on chickens from flocks raised for Holly Farms Industries of Wilkesboro, according to Dr. Kenneth May, the company's director of research and quality assurance.

The tests were begun after the Dept. of Agriculture found that fish meal used in chicken feed had been contaminated by PCB while being pasteurized at the East Coast Terminal at Wilmington.

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