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Interoffice Correspondence



Subject Fluorochemicals in Blood

August 9, 1977

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T. J. SCHEUERMAN

Since my letter of July 29, 1977 on the published report of perfluorooctanoic acid in human plasma, we have purchased and received a tape recording of Guy's presentation. I quote:

"From analysis of the F/NMR spectrum, the fluorine containing part of the compounds in the isolate (from human plasma) resemble perfluorooctanoic acid. Derivatives of this compound are widely used as surfactants. No toxicological studies of these compounds appear to have been published. A complete list of all products in which these compounds are presently being incorporated is not generally available. At least in the past, these have been used in floor waxes, wax paper, leather conditioning agents and fabric conditioning agents. Two trade names which may come to mind are Scotch Gard and Zepel. Compounds of this nature might be expected to bind to plasma albumin because of their resemblance to fatty acids normally bound."

"Human plasma may contain a number of types of organic fluoro compounds each distinct from the one characterized. We found multiple fluorine containing peaks in silicic acid chromatograms."

"That the major part of organic fluorine in human plasma is a widespread environmental contaminant is consistent with our findings."

J. W. Belisle
J. W. Belisle
/jz

