

Monsanto

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FROM (NAME & LOCATION) **J.W. Barrett, London**

I am not convinced we need to

DATE **7th November, 1969**

*cc. do anything with this report
at present*

SUBJECT **PCB Toxicology - Marine Laboratory,**
Department of Biology, University
REFERENCE **of Strathclyde**

TO **: E.A. Baxter, Ruabon.**

Herewith copy of letter from Dr. E.J. Perkins, Lecturer in the Department of Biology at the University of Strathclyde and I believe in charge of the Marine Laboratory there, together with copy of my reply.

It might be that Strathclyde is a particularly suitable place for toxicological measurements on sea fish. Certainly a relationship with them might be helpful in understanding more of the evidence which is accumulating on PCBs. A visit to Strathclyde should also determine what relationships, if any, there are between this Marine Laboratory and the Nature Conservancy.


J.W. BARRETT

MONS 090523

bcc. / R.A. Baxter

7th November, 1969

Dr. E.J. Perkins,
Marine Laboratory,
Dalandhui House,
Garelochhead,
Dunbartonshire.

Dear Dr. Perkins,

Toxicity of P.C.B. Compounds

You are correct in your belief that we manufacture and market polychlorinated biphenyls (P.C.B.s) and that we have been giving very considerable attention to the apparent occurrence of these substances in wild life of various species. We do have toxicological work going on with sea birds in particular in the U.S. but we certainly wish to consider continuously the possibility of other work to clarify this complex subject.

I am passing on your information to Dr. R.A. Baxter, Manager of our Research Laboratory at Ruabon, Denbighshire, where we are concentrating our work on P.C.B.s in this country. I anticipate that you will be hearing from him or some of his staff in the near future.

Yours sincerely,

J.W. BARRETT
Director of Research
and Development

JWB/HMH

MONS 090524



University of Strathclyde

The Director of Research,
Monsanto Chemicals Ltd.,
Monsanto House,
10/18 Victoria Street,
London, S.W.1.

Head of Department:
Professor W. W. Fletcher, BSc PhD FLS FIBiol FRSE
Marine Laboratory,
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Garelochhead,
Dunbartonshire.

Department of Biology

Royal College, George Street, Glasgow C 1 Tel: 041-552 4400
Garelochhead 398.

3rd November, 1969.

Dear Sir,

Toxicity of P.C.B. compounds.

I understand that your organisation manufactures plasticisers of the poly-chlor biphenyl (P.C.B.) group. I have no doubt that you are aware of a growing concern in the newspapers and elsewhere regarding the occurrence of these substances as residues in wildlife of various species. Unfortunately, despite all the noise in the popular media there seems to be no real knowledge of the toxicity of these substances to animal life.

We have in this laboratory a considerable experience of working with industrial problems on a contract basis: current toxicity investigations include a new generation of oil emulsifier compounds, pulping wastes and other industrial effluents. Despite the name of the laboratory we are competent to deal with fresh-water problems in addition to marine. We have a licenced facility for fish work, and a field laboratory which can be used in any situation. I therefore wish to enquire if there is any possibility of your organisation supporting an investigation of the toxicity of P.C.B. compounds to aquatic life.

May I assure you of our discretion in confidential matters.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

E. J. Perkins

E.J. Perkins.