

in weight increase in either group, or as compared with rats that were fed untreated grain. Previous investigations have shown that the gaseous phase of methallyl chloride is much less dangerous to animals than methyl bromide. The present research indicates that the residues of methallyl chloride remaining in grain cannot be considered as a hazard to the consumers of the grain.

-- Condensed from Bull. Hyg.

- 88 Methyl Bromide. Chemical Safety Data Sheet SD-35. Manufacturing Chemists' Association, Inc. 246 Woodward Building, Washington 5, D.C. 15pp. (Sept. 1949) 20 cents from the Association.

Methyl bromide is used as a fumigant and also as a fire extinguishing agent in special systems on aircraft. It is stored as a liquid under pressure. The gas is toxic on inhalation, practically nonflammable, corrosive only to aluminum and some of its alloys, and severe skin injuries may result from contact with the liquid. The high toxicity necessitates strict precautions and regulations regarding handling, shipping, and storage; these are given in detail. The gas has only a slight odor, so the warning from the odor may be insufficient. The generally accepted maximum allowable concentration is 20 p.p.m. by volume for an 8-hour day. A simple test for its presence and rough estimate concentration is passing the air over an acetylene-heated copper tube and observing the color of the flame. A table for this test is given. Personal protective equipment is important, and periodic physical examinations of workers are necessary. Directions for first aid are given, with brief suggestions for medical treatment. It is noteworthy that when artificial respiration is to be used, the Eve rocking method is advised, as prone pressure may accentuate the edema which generally occurs.

- 89 Central Inhibitory Effects of Carbon Dioxide on *Felis Domesticus*. G.H. Pollock. J. Neurophysiol. 12, 315-324 (1949).

High concentrations of carbon dioxide in oxygen increased the frequency but lowered the amplitude of the normal cat electroencephalogram. Carbon dioxide antagonized seizures induced by metrazole and by electricity; the effect increased as carbon dioxide pressure increased from five per cent to thirty per cent, and was present in low or high partial pressures of oxygen. The convulsive response to electric shock was apparently enhanced by hyper-ventilation, pure oxygen, and high oxygen, partial pressures in nitrogen, and antagonized by low oxygen (six per cent) even without carbon dioxide, and by 100 per cent nitrogen.

-- Chem. Abste.

- 90 Therapy of Acute Fluoride Poisoning. H.J. Peters. Am. J. Med. Sci. 216, 278-285 (Sept. 1948).

One case of serious acute fluoride poisoning where the patient had taken at least ten times the reported lethal dose and recovered is reported as an illustration of the disturbances of metabolism which may accompany such poisoning. A general outline of therapy is offered. It includes quick action, intravenous therapy with glucose in normal saline, saline stomach lavage, intravenous administration of calcium, maintenance of high urine volume, and precautions against external burns from vomitus, feces, and