Monsanto

FROM (NAME & LOCATION): M. E. Klaus - B2SD

DATE: June 20, 1978

CC:

SUBJECT: International Symposium on the Analysis of Hydrocarbons and Halogenated Hydrocarbons

REFERENCE:

TO:
W. C. Hammann - T3A
~~R. C. Isham - B1ND~~
E. T. Mollica - B3SA
J. C. Weber - B2SK
D. Wood - B2SD

Very little new information concerning the nature, incidence, distribution, or impact of PCB's in the environment was discussed during the symposium held May 23-25 at Hamilton, Ontario. A few highlights of the symposium follow.

There is a study underway at the Canada Centre for Island Waters to isolate the individual isomers of PCB's and determine which isomers are toxic.

There is no proof to date that organochlorines caused the reporductive failure of the Herring Gull during the early mid 1970's on Lake Ontario. This study is still going on.

The National Pesticide Monitoring Programs - Contaminant Residues in Freshwater Fish have shown the concentration of PCB's in fish tissues to remain constant from 1969 - 1975. There are now indications that PCB distribution may have decreased from 1969 - 1977, but final judgment awaits the results of the 1976 and 1977 analysis.

The symposium revealed that a lot of research is still being done on PCB's and the environment.

M. E. Klaus

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