Monsanto

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AROCLOR 1489

TOXICITY

The acute rat oral LD_{50} of AROCLOR 1489 is 8.3 grams/kilogram. When held in continuous 24-hour contact with intact rabbit skin, the dermal LD_{50} value was greater than 3.16 grams/kilogram. On the basis of these results, this product is considered to be practically non-toxic by ingestion in single doses and by single dermal applications.

When the undiluted material was held in contact with intact rabbit skin for 24 hours, a mild degree of irritation resulted (average maximum score at 24 hours of 3.0 on a scale of 8.0).

When instilled into the conjunctival sac of the rabbit eye, this product produced a slight, transitory degree of irritation (average maximum score at 1 hour of 10 on a scale of 110). All eyes had regained a normal appearance 72 hours after they were dosed.

Six male rats were exposed to an atmosphere near saturation with vapor of AROCLOR 1489 at ambient temperature. Due to its low volatility, there was essentially no vaporization of material and the animals survived the 6-hour exposure period and a subsequent 10-day observation period with no observable effects.

HANDLING PRECAUTIONS

The above animal toxicity data indicate that AROCLOR 1489 should not present any hazard from the standpoint of single acute exposures. However, it does contain polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) which may present hazards if there is repeated and prolonged exposure - either by inhalation of vapors or skin contact.

PCBs may be absorbed from the respiratory tract or through the unbroken skin leading to possible injury to the liver and a possible skin eruption called chloracne. Although reports of these conditions are rare, avoidance of excessive exposure is mandatory.

If AROCLOR 1489 is handled at elevated temperatures, closed systems, or effective mechanical local-exhaust ventilation in combination with good general workroom ventilation must be provided to eliminate inhalation of vapors.

Prolonged and repeated skin contact must be avoided also to eliminate

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the hazard of skin absorption. Secondly, AROCLOR 1489 may cause drying and chapping of the skin due to its potential solvent action.

ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS

During the past several years, evidence has accumulated to indicate that PCBs are widely dispersed throughout the environment and that they can have adverse ecological and toxicological effects. Extreme care should therefore be taken by all users of AROCLOR 1489 to prevent any entry into the environment through spills, leakage, use or disposal.

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