bcc: Messrs. W. R. Richard
H. S. Bergen
E. S. Tucker
J. E. Springate
H. L. Payton

Aroclor Toxicity

April 10, 1969

Mr. Robert Z. Rollins, Chief
Chemistry Laboratory Services
California Department of Agriculture
1220 North Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Mr. Rollins:

In reply to your recent letter, we have sent to your attention under separate cover, three bottles containing about 50 grams each of our Aroclor 1242, 1254 and 1260. These products are biphenyl chlorinated to the percentage level indicated by the last two figures in each number. The samples are electrical grade materials representative of our normal production.

We are aware of the work of Dr. Robert Risebrough at the University of California, Berkeley. We have an analytical research program underway for the identification and measurement of polychlorinated biphenyls in biological and plant materials. This work is based on concentration schemes followed by gas chromatography procedures with final characterization by mass spectroscopy. To date, we have no methods at a suitable state of development for release. For your information, we are also following work reported by Holmes, et al in Nature 216 227 (1967).

To the best of our knowledge, Aroclors are not used as solvents in pesticide formulations.

All of the Aroclors are practically insoluble in water. For example, Aroclor 1242 is soluble at 25°C only to the extent of about 200 parts per billion; Aroclor 1248 100 ppb and Aroclor 1254 50 ppb.

If we can be of any further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Keller
Manager of Applied Sciences

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