

To Environmental Coordinators Date 6/7

Attached is the latest information
on a new Computer Information
system sponsored by EPA.

It is a good data base for
obtaining risk #'s, reference
doses, etc.

TGG



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

E. H. O.
Post

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JUN 16 '88

Re: _____

APR 15 1988

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OFFICE OF
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear ~~Risk Assessor~~:

~~I am~~ I am very pleased to announce the availability of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS). IRIS is an on-line database of chemical-specific risk information on the relationship between chemical exposure and estimated human health effects. IRIS was developed for EPA staff and contractors to serve as a guide for EPA risk assessments, but because many other parties have indicated how useful IRIS information would be to them, EPA is making the database available outside the Agency.

IRIS provides chemical-specific risk data that represents an EPA scientific consensus. The database presents a summary of information on chemical hazard identification and dose-response assessment, thus, IRIS is not an exhaustive toxicological database.

IRIS translates chemical health effects data into a form which is useful in taking action to protect public health. Thus, IRIS bridges a significant gap in the transmission of information needed to reduce risks to human health. The database provides quantitative risk values and necessary qualitative health effects information which can act as guidance for deciding what action is necessary to protect the public health. Without this combined quantitative and qualitative information, it is often difficult for a risk manager to make decisions on how to best protect human health.

The information in IRIS is an authoritative interpretation of chemical health effects data. The quantitative risk values and supporting explanation has been reviewed and agreed upon by scientists from across the Agency using available studies on a substance. Thus, the information in IRIS represents an expert Agency consensus. This Agency-wide agreement on risk information is one of the most valuable aspects of IRIS.

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Currently, there are risk summaries in IRIS for 260 chemicals. IRIS is regularly updated -- new chemicals are added, and existing information on the chemicals is updated as new scientific data is reviewed. Additional risk information will be included on the chemicals to best meet the needs of EPA users. Thus, to ensure use of the most up-to-date chemical information, IRIS is only available on-line. There are several ways to establish on-line access to IRIS. An enclosure explains how to access the IRIS database and who to contact for IRIS training.

We at EPA are encouraged by the demand for IRIS and hope that you find the database useful as you perform risk assessments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William H. Farland", is written over a horizontal line.

William H. Farland, Ph.D.
Acting Director
Office of Health and Environmental
Assessment

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ACCESSING IRIS

IRIS is now available on DIALCOM, Inc.'s electronic mail network, the Public Health Foundation's Public Health Network (PHN), and will soon be on the National Library of Medicine's TOXNET system.

IRIS is housed on the network of DIALCOM Inc., a private telecommunications company. In order to access IRIS, you must obtain an account with DIALCOM, Inc., unless you are eligible to use the Public Health Network (PHN). The account is with DIALCOM, Inc. and not EPA. To obtain a DIALCOM Inc. account, contact Mike McLaughlin at (202) 488-0550 or write to: Mike McLaughlin, DIALCOM Inc., 600 Maryland Avenue SW, Suite 307, Washington DC 20024.

The user must pay only for the cost of accessing IRIS. The user will be billed by DIALCOM, Inc. There is a \$25.00 monthly minimum which is applied against a usage fee of \$25.00 per hour. In addition to the usage fee, there is a \$.05 charge per computer screen accessed. There is no EPA charge for using IRIS.

If you are a state or local health department, it may be possible for you to access IRIS through the Public Health Network (PHN) of the Public Health Foundation. Those choosing to access IRIS via the Public Health Network will be charged at the PHN rate. Contact Paul Johnson at the Public Health Foundation, (202) 898-5600, for information on PHN.

Efforts were recently started to make IRIS available through the National Library of Medicine's TOXNET system. IRIS should become part of TOXNET sometime this summer. On-line messages will be posted on IRIS and TOXNET to announce this availability.

HOW TO GET IRIS TRAINING

Training in using IRIS is being arranged through the ten EPA Regions. This training is for both EPA staff and the public. The Regions are scheduling IRIS training to fit the risk assessment training needs of each particular Region. Thus, IRIS training schedules will vary among the Regions. The following EPA Regional staff are coordinating IRIS training at their Regional offices:

<u>EPA REGION</u>	<u>IRIS CONTACTS</u>
I Boston	Tom D'Avanzo (617) 565-3222 FTS 835-3222
II New York	Marian Olson (212) 264-5682 FTS 264-5682

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III	Philadelphia	Roy Smith (215) 597-9857 FTS 597-9857
IV	Atlanta	Gayle Alston (404) 347-4216 FTS 257-4216
V	Chicago	David Dolan (312) 886-6195 FTS 886-6195
VI	Dallas	Fred Reitman (214) 655-2235 FTS 255-2235
		Jill Lyons (214) 655-7208 FTS 255-7208
VII	Kansas City	Bob Fenemore (913) 236-2970 FTS 757-2970
VIII	Denver	Jim Baker (303) 293-1524 FTS 564-1524
IX	San Francisco	Arnold Den (415) 974-0906 FTS 454-0906
X	Seattle	Dave Tetta (206) 442-2138 FTS 399-2138
		Dana Davoli (206) 442-2135 FTS 399-2135

If you have any questions about IRIS, call IRIS User Support at (513) 569-7254 or FTS 684-7254.

IRIS

INTRODUCTION

OVERVIEW OF IRIS

The Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS), prepared and maintained by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), is an electronic data base containing health risk and EPA regulatory information on specific chemicals. IRIS was developed for EPA staff in response to a growing demand for consistent risk information on chemical substances for use in decision-making and regulatory activities. Although IRIS is designed for EPA staff, it is also accessible to state and local environmental health agencies. IRIS is available to libraries, private citizens, and other organizations by means of Dialcom, Inc.'s Electronic Mail telecommunications system. The information in IRIS is intended for EPA staff without extensive training in toxicology, but with some knowledge of health sciences.

The heart of the IRIS system is its collection of computer files covering individual chemicals. These chemical files contain descriptive and quantitative information in the following categories:

- o Oral and inhalation reference doses (RfDs) for chronic noncarcinogenic health effects
- o Oral and inhalation slope factors and unit risks for chronic exposures to carcinogens
- o Drinking water health advisories from EPA's Office of Drinking Water
- o EPA regulatory action summaries
- o Supplementary data on acute health hazards and physical/chemical properties

To aid users in accessing and understanding the data in the IRIS chemical files, the following supportive documentation is provided:

1. Hazard identification,
2. Dose-response assessment,
3. Exposure assessment, and
4. Risk characterization,

with risk characterization being the transitional step to risk management.

The following discussion of the four steps of risk assessment was excerpted from "Principles of Risk Assessment: A Nontechnical Review" (U.S. EPA, 1985).

Hazard identification involves gathering and evaluating data on the types of health injury or disease that may be produced by a chemical and on the conditions of exposure under which injury or disease is produced. It may also involve characterization of the behavior of a chemical within the body and the interactions it undergoes with organs, cells, or even part of cells. Data of the latter types may be of value in answering the ultimate question of whether the forms of toxicity known to be produced by a substance in one population group or in experimental settings are also likely to be produced in humans. Hazard identification is not risk assessment; we are simply determining whether it is scientifically correct to infer that toxic effects observed in one setting will occur in other settings (e.g., whether substances found to be carcinogenic or teratogenic in experimental animals are likely to have the same results in humans).

Dose-response assessment involves describing the quantitative relationship between the amount of exposure to a substance and the extent of toxic injury or disease. Data are derived from animal studies, or less frequently, from studies in exposed populations. There may be many different toxic effects under different conditions of exposure.

The risks of a substance cannot be ascertained with any degree of confidence unless dose-response relationships are quantified, even if the substance is known to be toxic.

Exposure assessment involves describing the nature and size of the population exposed to a substance and the magnitude and duration of their exposure. The evaluation could concern past or current exposures, or exposures anticipated in the future.

Risk characterization generally involves the integration of the

LIMITATIONS OF IRIS INFORMATION

The information in the Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) is most useful if applied in the larger context of risk assessment as outlined by the National Academy of Sciences. IRIS supports the first two steps of the risk assessment process (as summarized in Service Code (menu option) 4); namely, the hazard identification and dose-response assessment steps. The primary qualitative and quantitative risk data in IRIS, the reference doses (RfDs) and carcinogen assessments, can serve as guides in evaluating potential health hazards and selecting a response to alleviate a potential risk to human health.

The **reference dose (RfD)** can be used to estimate a level of environmental exposure at or below which no adverse effect is expected to occur. The RfD is an **estimate** (with uncertainty spanning perhaps an order of magnitude) of a daily exposure to the human population (including sensitive subgroups) that is likely to be without appreciable risk of deleterious effects during a lifetime. RfDs are based on an assumption of lifetime exposure and may not be appropriately applied to less-than-lifetime exposure situations. RfDs are also derived for the noncarcinogenic effects of chemicals that are carcinogenic.

The **carcinogen assessments** in IRIS begin with a qualitative weight-of-evidence judgment in the form of a classification as to the likelihood that a chemical may be a carcinogen for humans. This judgment is made independent of consideration of the agent's potency. A quantitative assessment, including slope factor and unit risk, is then presented. The slope factor is an upper-bound **estimate** of the human cancer risk per mg of agent/kg body weight/day. The unit risk, which is calculated from the slope factor, is an **estimate** in terms of either risk per ug/L drinking water, or risk per ug/cu.m air concentration.

In general, risk values, such as those in IRIS, cannot be validly used to predict the incidence of human disease or the type of effects that chemical exposures may have on humans. This is due to the numerous **uncertainties** involved in risk assessment, including those associated with extrapolations from animal data to humans and from high experimental doses to lower environmental exposures. The organs affected and the type of adverse effect resulting from chemical exposure may differ between study animals and humans. In addition, many factors besides exposure to a chemical influence the occurrence and extent of human disease.

Any change to an RfD, slope factor or unit risk as they appear in IRIS (for example, the use of more or fewer uncertainty factors than were applied to arrive at an RfD) invalidates and distorts their application in estimating the potential health risk posed by chemical exposure.

Each reference dose and carcinogen assessment is derived by an interdisciplinary work group of EPA scientists using consistent chemical hazard identification and dose-response assessment methods. These methods are outlined in Background Documents 1 and 2 (Service Code 5). It is important to note that the risk information in IRIS will be revised by these work groups when additional health effects data become available and new developments in risk assessment methods arise.

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Chemicals on the Integrated Risk Information System
(April 15, 1988)

Sections Available:

RfD = Chronic noncarcinogenic assessment (Reference Dose)

CAR = Chronic carcinogenicity assessment

HA = Drinking Water Health Advisories

Acetone; 67-64-1RfD
Acetonitrile; 75-05-8RfD
Acrylic Acid; 79-10-7RfD
Acrylonitrile; 107-13-1CAR
Alachlor; 15972-60-8RfD, HA
Aldicarb; 116-06-3RfD, HA
Aldrin; 309-00-2RfD, CAR
Allyl Alcohol; 107-18-6RfD
Aluminum Phosphide; 20859-73-8RfD
Amdro; 67485-29-4RfD
Ametryn; 834-12-8RfD
Ammonium Sulfamate; 7773-06-0RfD
Antimony; 7440-36-0RfD
Apollo; 74115-24-5RfD
Arsenic, inorganic; 7440-38-2CAR
razine; 1912-24-9RfD

Barium; 7440-39-3RfD
Barium Cyanide; 542-62-1RfD
Baygon; 114-26-1RfD
Bayleton; 43121-43-3RfD
Baythroid; 68359-37-5RfD
Benefin; 1861-40-1RfD
Benomyl; 17804-35-2RfD
Bentazon; 25057-89-0RfD
Benzene; 71-43-2CAR, HA
Benzidine; 92-87-5CAR
Benzo[a]pyrene (BaP); 50-32-8CAR
Beryllium; 7440-41-7RfD
Bidrin; 141-66-2RfD
1,1-Biphenyl; 92-52-4RfD
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate (BEHP); 117-81-7RfD
Bis(chloroethyl)ether (BCEE); 111-44-4CAR
Bromodichloromethane; 75-27-4RfD
Bromoform; 75-25-2RfD
Bromomethane; 74-83-9RfD
Bromoxynil Octanoate; 1689-99-2RfD
1,3-Butadiene; 106-99-0CAR
n-Butanol; 71-36-3RfD
Butylate; 2008-41-5RfD
tylphthalyl Butylglycolate (BPPG); 85-70-1RfD

Cadmium; 7440-43-9CAR
Calcium Cyanide; 592-01-8RfD

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uptafol; 2425-06-1RfD
Captan; 133-06-2RfD
Carbaryl; 63-25-2RfD
Carbofuran; 1563-66-2RfD, HA
Carbon Disulfide; 75-15-0RfD
Carbon Tetrachloride; 56-23-5RfD, CAR, HA
Carbosulfan; 55285-14-8RfD
Carboxin; 5234-68-4RfD
Chloramben; 133-90-4RfD
Chlordane; 57-74-9RfD, CAR, HA
Chlorine Cyanide; 506-77-4RfD
Chloroform; 67-66-3RfD
Chloromethyl Methyl Ether (CMME); 107-30-2.CAR
Chlorothalonil; 1897-45-6RfD
Chlorpyrifos; 2921-88-2RfD
Chlorsulfuron; 64902-72-3RfD
Chromium(III); 16065-83-1RfD, HA
Chromium(VI); 7440-47-3RfD, CAR, HA
Copper Cyanide; 544-92-3RfD
Cyanazine; 21725-46-2RfD
Cyanide, free; 57-12-5RfD, HA
Cyanogen; 460-19-5RfD
Cyclohexanone; 108-94-1RfD
Cyromazine; 66215-27-8RfD

lapon; 75-99-0RfD
Danitol; 39515-41-8RfD
Decabromodiphenyl Ether (DBDPE); 1163-19-5RfD
Demeton; 8065-48-3RfD
1,4-Dibromobenzene; 106-37-6RfD
Dibromochloromethane; 124-48-1RfD
Dibutyl Phthalate; 84-74-2RfD
Dicamba; 1918-00-9RfD
Dichlorodifluoromethane; 75-71-8RfD
p,p'-Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT); 50-29-3RfD
1,2-Dichloroethane; 107-06-2CAR, HA
1,1-Dichloroethylene; 75-35-4RfD, CAR
Dichloromethane; 75-09-2RfD, CAR, HA
2,4-Dichlorophenol; 120-83-2RfD
4-(2,4-Dichlorophenoxy)butyric acid (2,4-DB); 94-82-6RfD
2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (2,4-D); 94-75-7RfD
1,3-Dichloropropene (Telone II); 542-75-6RfD
Dichlorvos; 62-73-7RfD
Diethyl Phthalate; 84-66-2RfD
Diflubenzuron; 35367-38-5RfD
Dimethipin; 55290-64-7RfD
Dimethoate; 60-51-5RfD
Dimethyl Terephthalate (DMT); 120-61-6RfD
N-N-Dimethylaniline; 121-69-7RfD
2,4-Dinitrophenol; 51-28-5RfD
noseb; 88-85-7RfD
Diphenamid; 957-51-7RfD
Diphenylamine; 122-39-4RfD
1,2-Diphenylhydrazine; 122-66-7CAR

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Aquat; 85-00-7RfD
Isulfoton; 298-04-4RfD
Diuron; 330-54-1RfD
Dodine; 2439-10-3RfD

Endosulfan; 115-29-7RfD
Endothall; 145-73-3RfD
Epichlorohydrin; 106-89-8RfD, CAR, HA
Ethion; 563-12-2RfD
Ethyl Acetate; 141-78-6RfD
S-Ethyl dipropylthiocarbamate (EPTC); 759-94-4RfD
Ethyl p-nitrophenyl phenylphosphorothioate (EPN); 2104-64-5RfD
Ethylbenzene; 100-41-4RfD, HA
Ethylene Glycol; 107-21-1RfD
Ethylphthalyl Ethylglycolate (EPEG); 84-72-0RfD

Fenamiphos; 22224-92-6RfD
Fluometuron; 2164-17-2RfD
Fluorine (soluble fluoride); 7782-41-4RfD
Fluridone; 59756-60-4RfD
Folpet; 133-07-3RfD
Fonofos; 944-22-9RfD
Formic Acid; 64-18-6RfD
Fosetyl-al; 39148-24-8RfD
Furan; 110-00-9RfD

Glufosinate-ammonium; 77182-82-2RfD
Glyphosate; 1071-83-6RfD

Heptachlor; 76-44-8RfD, CAR, HA
Heptachlor Epoxide; 1024-57-3RfD, CAR, HA
Hexabromobenzene; 87-82-1RfD
Hexachlorobutadiene; 87-68-3RfD, CAR
alpha-Hexachlorocyclohexane (alpha-HCH); 319-84-6CAR
beta-Hexachlorocyclohexane (beta-HCH); 319-85-7CAR
delta-Hexachlorocyclohexane (delta-HCH); 319-86-8CAR
epsilon-Hexachlorocyclohexane (epsilon-HC); 6108-10-7CAR
gamma-Hexachlorocyclohexane (gamma-HCH); 58-89-9RfD, HA
technical Hexachlorocyclohexane (t-HCH); 00-01-0CAR
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene (HCCPD); 77-47-4RfD
Hexachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin, mixture (HxCDD); 19408-74-3CAR
Hexachloroethane; 57-72-1RfD, CAR
Hexazinone; 51235-04-2RfD
Hydrogen Cyanide; 74-90-8RfD, HA
Hydrogen Sulfide; 7783-06-4RfD

Imazalil; 35554-44-0RfD
Imazaquin; 81335-37-7RfD
Isobutyl Alcohol; 78-83-1RfD
Isophorone; 78-59-1RfD
opropalin; 33820-53-0RfD

Lead; 7439-92-1RfD
Linuron; 330-55-2RfD

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ondax; 83055-99-6RfD

Malathion; 121-75-5RfD

Maleic Hydrazide; 123-33-1RfD

Metalaxyl; 57837-19-1RfD

Methamidophos; 10265-92-6RfD

Methomyl; 16752-77-5RfD

Methyl Ethyl Ketone (MEK); 78-93-3RfD

Methyl Isobutyl Ketone (MIBK); 108-10-1RfD

Methyl Mercury; 22967-92-6RfD

Methyl Parathion; 298-00-0RfD

2-Methyl-4-chlorophenoxy acetic acid (MCPA); 94-74-6RfD

2-(2-Methyl-4-chlorophenoxy)propionic acid (MCPP); 93-65-2RfD

Metolachlor; 51218-45-2RfD

Metribuzin; 21087-64-9RfD

Mirex; 2385-85-5RfD

Naled; 300-76-5RfD

Nickel Carbonyl; 13463-39-3CAR

Nickel Refinery Dust; 00-02-0CAR

Nickel Subsulfide; 12035-72-2CAR

Nickel, soluble salts; 7440-02-0RfD

Nitrapyrin; 1929-82-4RfD

Nitrate; 14797-55-8RfD, HA

Nitric Oxide; 10102-43-9RfD

Nitrite; 14797-65-0RfD, HA

Nitrobenzene; 98-95-3RfD

Nitrogen Dioxide; 10102-44-0RfD

N-Nitroso-di-n-butylamine; 924-16-3CAR

N-Nitroso-N-methylethylamine; 10595-95-6CAR

N-Nitrosodi-N-propylamine; 621-64-7CAR

N-Nitrosodiethanolamine; 1116-54-7CAR

N-Nitrosodiethylamine; 55-18-5CAR

N-Nitrosodimethylamine; 62-75-9CAR

N-Nitrosodiphenylamine; 86-30-6CAR

N-Nitrosopyrrolidine; 930-55-2CAR

Norflurazon; 27314-13-2RfD

Octabromodiphenyl ether; 32536-52-0RfD

Oryzalin; 19044-88-3RfD

Oxadiazon; 19666-30-9RfD

Oxamyl; 23135-22-0RfD, HA

Oxyfluorfen; 42874-03-3RfD

Paclobutrazol; 76738-62-0RfD

Paraquat; 1910-42-5RfD

Pentabromodiphenyl ether; 32534-81-9RfD

Pentachlorobenzene; 608-93-5RfD

Pentachloronitrobenzene (PCNB); 82-68-8RfD

Pentachlorophenol; 87-86-5RfD, HA

Permethrin; 52645-53-1RfD

Phenol; 108-95-2RfD

m-Phenylenediamine; 108-45-2RfD

Phenylmercuric Acetate; 62-38-4RfD

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hosmet; 732-11-6RfD
phosphine; 7803-51-2RfD
Picloram; 1918-02-1RfD
Pirimiphos-methyl; 29232-93-7RfD
Potassium Cyanide; 151-50-8RfD, HA
Potassium Silver Cyanide; 506-61-6RfD
Prometon; 1610-18-0RfD
Prometryn; 7287-19-6RfD
Pronamide; 23950-58-5RfD
Propachlor; 1918-16-7RfD
Propanil; 709-98-8RfD
Propazine; 139-40-2RfD
Propham; 122-42-9RfD
Pydrin; 51630-58-1RfD
Pyridine; 110-86-1RfD

Quinalphos; 13593-03-8RfD

Radon 222; 14859-67-7CAR

Selenious Acid; 7783-00-8RfD
Selenourea; 630-10-4RfD
Sethoxydim; 74051-80-2RfD
Silver; 7440-22-4RfD
Silver Cyanide; 506-64-9RfD
mazine; 122-34-9RfD
Sodium Acifluorfen; 62476-59-9RfD
Sodium Azide; 26628-22-8RfD
Sodium Cyanide; 143-33-9RfD, HA
Sodium Diethyldithiocarbamate (Dithiocarb); 148-18-5RfD
Strychnine; 57-24-9RfD
Styrene; 100-42-5RfD

Tebuthiuron; 34014-18-1RfD
Terbacil; 5902-51-2RfD
1,2,4,5-Tetrachlorobenzene; 95-94-3RfD
1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane; 630-20-6RfD
1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane; 79-34-5CAR
Tetrachloroethylene; 127-18-4RfD, HA
2,3,4,6-Tetrachlorophenol; 58-90-2RfD
Tetrachlorovinphos; 961-11-5RfD
Tetraethyl Lead; 78-00-2RfD
Thallic Oxide; 1314-32-5RfD
Thallium Acetate; 563-68-8RfD
Thallium Carbonate; 6533-73-9RfD
Thallium Chloride; 7791-12-0RfD
Thallium Nitrate; 10102-45-1RfD
Thallium Selenite; 12039-52-0RfD
Thallium(I) Sulfate; 7446-18-6RfD
thiobencarb; 28249-77-6RfD
thiophanate-methyl; 23564-05-8RfD
Thiram; 137-26-8RfD
Toluene; 108-88-3RfD
Triallate; 2303-17-5RfD

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