UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY · LOGAN, UTAH 84321
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

DEPARTMENT OF
ANIMAL SCIENCE

July 3, 1969

Dr. Cummings Paton
Organic Division Development
Monsanto Chemical Company
800 North Lindberg Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63166

Dear Dr. Paton:

Through collaboration with Dr. Francis A. Gunther, University of California-Riverside, I obtained samples of the Arochlor products from your company which have been studied for effectiveness in induction of hepatic microsomal enzymes. The enclosed abstract which summarizes our work to date, has been submitted for the program of the Pesticide Division, American Chemical Society for its next annual meeting. Dr. Gunther asked that I keep you informed of our studies, hence this letter.

My primary interest in studying substituted biphenyls has been in connection with a sizable endeavor to identify significant structure-activity relationships in compounds capable of inducing hepatic microsomal enzymes. We had earlier investigated a considerable series of bridged and unbridged diphenyl compounds involving a variety of substituent groupings. The activities of the Arochlors seem to fit reasonably well with that predicted on the basis of our earlier studies, allowing for the crude composition of the Arochlor products. We are most anxious to obtain pure compounds in the chlorinated biphenyl family and would appreciate any assistance you and your company might be able to provide in obtaining such.

In regard to the possible significance of PCB materials in the environment, I am presently fairly openminded. I am impressed with the potency of the higher members of the Arochlor family as enzyme inducers. However, I am by no means committed to the view that this is a serious hazard in itself to the health of any organism, including the wildlife species that have been the subject of so much recent concern because of pesticide residues. The scientific questions remaining in this area are extremely complex and much more research information is needed before a clear understanding emerges. Toward that end the continued assistance of your company will be most appreciated and, of course, acknowledged in our presentations and publications.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph C. Street

Joseph C. Street
Professor

JCS:jw

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