

NEWSCLIP/APCUT

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From the desk of
F. V. 10112

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50-10 FETOSTUTIS
WEEKLY 18,000

OCT 30 1971

APCUT
F-M-1012

Fires Occur in Plants Substituting for PCBs

ATHENS, GA. -- Plants that may be replacing PCBs in heat resisting cooling systems with substitutes were warned at the Smithsonian Quality Health Seminar here to be on guard against fires. Some of the substitutes, according to Dr. Harold Erubach, USDA's Consumer & Marketing Services, are not fire resistant. Some fires have occurred in plants that had made a substitution, he reported.

- 8 OCT 1971

Bayer phases out PCB's in Germany

Bayer is to stop marketing the highly-chlorinated form of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), widely used as a plasticizer in films and paints, anywhere in the world by the end of this year. Monsanto, the only producer in the UK and the USA, stopped marketing these materials in both countries earlier this year and stopped production at its UK plant at Newmarket, Monmouthshire. The company is expected to follow Bayer's lead in Germany.

FYI -- Latest selected PCB clips we thought might be of interest to you.

EVJ

52-2 AGRIBUSINESS
REPORT
WEEK

OCT 4 1971

APCUT
BAYONS

PCB'S: POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL POISON: In the alphabet of environmental contaminants, DDT may soon be replaced by PCB's. Like DDT, PCB compounds are toxic and extremely persistent in the environment, but presents no short-term danger. Unlike DDT, PCB's are used in the production of some floor tiles, inks, asphalt highways, paints, vernishes, brake linings, flame retardants, resins, and many other everyday products. The most toxic PCB compound is probably about half as toxic as DDT on a long-term basis, according to University of Minnesota entomologist, Laurence Cuckoo. Presently, no tolerance levels have been established by the Environmental Protection Agency of the federal government on PCB compounds. They are being considered, however, and a major producer - Monsanto Company - has taken the first step by eliminating sales of PCB compounds intended for items commonly used by the public including adhesives, specialty coatings, and chlorinated rubber.

The Wichita Eagle
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Recycled Paper

There have been good and bad developments in recent days in national efforts to encourage reuse of waste paper.

The good: The federal government has come up with a new definition of recycled paper which should help put paper

Previously, scraps from manufacturing alone, fed back into the paper-making process, could qualify the finished product as recycled paper. This definition did nothing to bring home and office scraps back into the paper product, however. And that was the whole point of the government's program to buy recycled paper.

The bad news: Industrial chemicals called polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) are showing up in four's packaged in cardboard made from recycled paper. The industrially poisonous chemicals, which have characteristics similar to the pesticide DDT, apparently came from extraneous carbon paper or possibly printing ink. PCBs once were used in these products but reportedly have not been in used since June.

This development calls for action on two fronts. One, the federal government should not permit cardboard lined with PCBs to be used in packaging foods. Two, it should make every effort to see that PCBs are not used in ways that allow them to enter the environment.

—Philip Dester

Guest Editorial

wastes from home and office back into a usable product instead of municipal incinerators or solid waste dumps. This will not only reduce solid waste disposal problems, but will save trees from being cut for pulp.

The new specification requires that at least 10 per cent of the finished product be made from "post consumer wastes"—that is scrap paper from homes and offices—to qualify as recycled paper. It also requires that 45 per cent of the finished product be reused fiber, which can come from both consumer wastes and scrap from the paper companies' manufacturing operations.

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