DANVILLE, VA.
BEE
D. 17,000

DEC 9 1971

Chicken Feed Contamination Basis Of Damage Suit By Poultry Firm

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GREENSBORO (AP) — Holly Farms Poultry Industries, Inc., is seeking a total of $63 million from several firms, including $56 million from Monsanto Co. alone, as a result of chicken feed contamination.

In the suit, which was transferred Wednesday from Wilkes Superior Court to U.S. District Court at Greensboro at Monsanto's request, Holly Farms said the contamination forced it to destroy chickens and eggs.

The Wilkes County firm said the feed was contaminated with the chemical PCB, or polychlorinated biphenyl, because of a leak at the Wilmington plant that processed the feed. It said PCB is potentially toxic to humans.

Holly Farms did not say how many chickens and eggs it destroyed, but it said the number was enough to seriously damage its business. And it said its "good will was, and is, damaged by the apprehension and fear on the part of the general consuming public that chickens were and are contaminated."

Holly Farms alleges Monsanto sold the PCB in violation of its policy when it should have known the intended use of the chemical indicated there was a leak involved. Other defendants are East Coast Terminals, Inc.; South Pacific Protein Association, Inc.; Wilbur-Ellis Co. and the International Proteins Corp.

East Coast, alleged to be the owner of the facilities involved in the contamination at Wilmington; South Pacific, which leased a part of the warehouse where the leak occurred; and Monsanto are being sued merely for $6 million. Wilbur-Ellis is being sued for $3,250,000 and is an alleged seller of contaminated fish meal; while International Proteins is being used for $750,000 for also selling the meal.

Montgomery Advertiser
MONTGOMERY, ALA.
D. 62,328 SUN. 82,174

DEC 10 1971

Poultry Firm's Suit Asks $63 Million

GREENSBORO, N.C. (AP) — Holly Farms Poultry Industries, Inc., has filed a $63-million suit against five companies it claims were responsible for Holly Farms' having to destroy thousands of chickens and eggs contaminated with a chemical potentially toxic to humans.

The suit, originally filed in Wilkes Superior Court, was transferred this week to U.S. District court in Greensboro at the request of the principal defendant in the action, the Monsanto Co.

Holly Farms alleged the chickens and eggs were contaminated by liquid polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) which leaked into fish meal being processed at Wilmington, N.C. for use in chicken feed. The PCB was being used as a heat exchange fluid in a closed-system pasteurizing device.

Seeking $56 million in one claim from Monsanto alone, the poultry processor charged that Monsanto violated its own policy of controlling PCB by selling it to the pasteurizing device's operating firm when it should have known the orders indicated a leakage existed.

The suit also seeks: $6 million from Monsanto, East Coast Terminals Inc., owner of facilities at the port of Wilmington, and South Pacific Protein Association Inc., which leased a port warehouse where the feed was processed; $3,250,000 from Wilbur-Ellis Co., and $750,000 from International Proteins Corp. The last two firms, Holly Farms claims, sold contaminated fish meal.

MONS 069840