STATE OF CALIFORNIA — RONALD REAGAN, Governor

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

1220 N Street
Sacramento
95814

March 10, 1969

Monsanto Company
800 North Lindberg Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63166

Gentlemen

Our regulatory analytical work covers about 70,000 samples a year of fertilizers, feeds, pesticides, meat, and dairy products and includes about 17,000 samples of fruits, vegetables, hay, meat, milk, eggs, and other agricultural produce for pesticide residues.

There have been a number of articles in the newspapers about PCB as a body-fat contaminant. We are writing to Dr. Robert Risebrough at University of California, Berkeley, asking for information about the nature of this compound or group of compounds, and the methods he uses to extract, cleanup, measure, and identify this substance.

We would also greatly appreciate your information on the subject and receiving small samples of the several Aroclors to which the news items refer. At the moment, we do not know if such compounds are present in our samples, and either discarded in our cleanup techniques or mis-identified in our gas chromatographic analyses.

Are Aroclors used as solvents in pesticide formulations? Much of our work on these use infra-red techniques but, without appropriate standards, we do not know if we might be missing them here also.

Sincerely

Robert Z. Rollins, Chief
Chemistry Laboratory Services

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