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

NOV 30 1984

**EXPEDITE**

OFFICE OF  
PESTICIDES AND TOXIC SUBSTANCES

MEMORANDUM:

SUBJECT: Monosodium Methanearsonate Data Call-in  
Caswell No. 549A

TO: Geraldine Werdig  
Product Manager (50)  
Registration Division (TS-767)

THRU: Christine F. Chaisson, Ph.D. *CF Chaisson 11/28/84*  
Head, Review Section IV  
Toxicology Branch  
Hazard Evaluation Division (TS-769)

FROM: William Dykstra, Ph.D. *William Dykstra*  
Toxicology Branch  
Hazard Evaluation Division (TS-769) *11/28/84*

Action Requested: Review proposal for using MSMA as technical material for toxicology studies. *11/30/84*

Recommendations:

1. Toxicology Branch considers that technical MSMA is the appropriate test material rather than MAA for assessment of methanearsonate chemicals. Additionally, toxicology studies using MSMA will support data requirements of other methanearsonate chemicals.

Review:

1. No new toxicity data were submitted.
2. Based on the submitted proposal, the use of MSMA as the test material for oral feeding or gavage toxicity studies can be toxicologically supported in light of the finding that MSMA degrades to MAA in human gastric juices (memo of 4/9/82 conference between RCB and SPRD). The same conversion of any methanearsonate to MAA would also be expected.