

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

FILE

REPORT OF TELEPHONE CALL OR VISIT		NOTE: Complete this form. Write "NA" if not applicable.
INCOMING CALL	VISITOR	DATE April 27, 1978
OUTGOING CALL	CONGRESSIONAL	TIME OF CALL 12:45 PM
NAME AND ADDRESS OF CALLER OR VISITOR Ms. Sally Walker Staff of Sen. Musky		PHONE NO. (Include Area Code or IDS No.) 224-7861
		REGISTRATION, ID NO. OR FILE SYMBOL NA; CAS NO 160
		DATE OF LATEST SUBMISSION NA

BRIEF SUMMARY OF CONVERSATION

Dr. Rogoff asked me to call Ms. Walker, since she had some questions re. Spruce Budworm Spray in Maine. (I recently attended a colloquium in Bangor Maine where several problems of the spray program were discussed).

ACTION TAKEN OR RECOMMENDED

Ms. Walker was primarily interested in the implications concerning the so called Rey-Syndrome. She also asked which pesticide was to be used in Maine. - The answer to the second question was: I do not know exactly since at the meeting in Maine several alternatives were discussed; I would, however, anticipate that carbaryl is the prime candidate. In answer to questions related to the Rey-Syndrome I gave her a brief historical description.

1. About 2-3 years ago a Dr. Crocker from Dalhousie University observed an increase of the Syndrome in rural Canadian Children; the rural areas were also sprayed with Fenitrothion. He postulated a causal relationship.
2. Since Rey-Syndrome has a viral etiology (which virus is not certain) Dr. Crocker exposed mice to a near lethal dose of encephalo-myocarditis virus and treated some mice with Fenitrothion formulation and some with the emulsifiers only. It appeared that mice became less resistant to the virus after Fenitrothion treatment, and treatment with emulsifiers. The results were ambiguous and Dr. Crocker actually implicated the pesticide as causing the effect.
3. Later a collaborator of Crocker, Dr. Rozee, treated tissue cultures with Fenitrothion and emulsifiers and studied the tissue cultures susceptibility to various viruses. It was demonstrated that emulsifiers enhance the susceptibility of tissue cultures, but the pesticide per se had no effect. The conclusion of the mouse study thus was reversed.

RECORDED BY (Name) <i>Reto Engler</i> <i>RE</i> 5/2/78	REFERRED TO (Name)
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I explained to Ms. Walker that these tests are ambiguous, to say the least, since many substances including hypo-and hypertonic solutions and proteolytic enzymes alter the susceptibility of cell cultures. I also pointed out that in Dr. Crocker's line of reason the possibility of a viral endemic or epidemic condition in the Canadian Children was entirely disregarded. I also referred Ms. Walker to the CDC Atlanta to obtain further information on the etiology and epidemiology of Rey Syndrome; I indicated to her that from personal communications with virologists and pediatrician-virologists I have learned that the true etiology of Rey Syndrome is not completely understood.