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Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker**

GDCh-Advisory Committee
on Existing Chemicals of
Environmental Relevance (BUA)

1,1,1-Trichloroethane

BUA Report 156

(August 1994)



S. Hirzel

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of Environmental Relevance

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Umweltrelevante Altstoffe (BUA)



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Foreword

The German Chemicals Act (Chemikaliengesetz - ChemG) of 1980 stipulates that certain existing chemicals must be reported to the competent authority, if they exhibit properties which indicate that they may be hazardous, either alone or in combination with other substances.

In the summer of 1982, an Advisory Committee on Existing Chemicals of Environmental Relevance (BUA) was set up by the German Chemical Society (Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker - GDCh). It brings together representatives from the scientific community, the chemical industry and the governmental authorities. This Advisory Committee is responsible for elaborating appropriate solutions for substances of relevance for health and the environment on the basis of voluntary measures. It selects and examines existing chemicals from the aforementioned angles. The testing and evaluation are based on scientific criteria alone.

It was, therefore, necessary to develop priority setting procedures. In a first phase reports were only prepared for priority chemicals. Within the framework of a first priority setting procedure, chemicals were compiled from several priority lists and 135 chemicals were selected for detailed substance reports.

In a second priority setting procedure the survey of the German Chemical Industry Association (VCI) on all substances with a production volume of more than 10 tons per year was used as a starting list. Since this survey covered 4,600 chemicals, BUA decided to process the corresponding list in several stages. The first stage included approx. 1,050 substances with a production volume of more than 1,000 tons per year.

Detailed reports are drawn up on chemicals suspected of having a hazard potential and abridged reports on those presenting only a minor hazard potential, according to the current state of knowledge.

The detailed BUA reports take in both the published literature and data from industry. If data for the evaluation of the chemicals are not available, additional studies are recommended and the results are published as updates to the reports. The reports serve as a basis for the instigation of administrative measures, when there are indications of risks to health or the environment.

Tübingen, May 1993

Ernst Bayer
Chairman of the Advisory Committee
on Existing Chemicals
of Environmental Relevance

Contents

Summary and ConclusionsXI
--------------------------------------	------------

Recommendations	XXIV
------------------------------	-------------

1,1,1-Trichloroethane

1. Chemistry of 1,1,1-Trichloroethane	1
1.1 Chemical Identity	1
1.2 Compositon of the Technical Product	2
1.3 Chemical Properties	3
2. Physical Properties	4
3. Analysis	8
3.1 Determination in Air	8
3.2 Determination in Water	15
3.3 Determination in Soil, Sediment and Biological Material	25
4. Emission into the Environment during Production, Processing, Use and Waste Disposal	36
4.1 Production Methods	36
4.1.1 Gas-Phase Chlorination of 1,1-Dichloroethane	36
4.1.2 Catalytic Hydrochlorination of 1,1-Dichloroethene	38
4.1.3 Gas-Phase Chlorination of Ethane	38
4.2 Manufacturers and Processors, Export, Import, Total Consumption	38
4.3 Processing, Use, Quantities Consumed	44
4.3.1 Processing	44
4.3.2 Use	44
4.3.3 Consumption Pattern	47
4.4 Emission into the Atmosphere	50
4.4.1 Emission during Production and Processing	50
4.4.2 Emission from Use	50
4.4.3 Emission from Diffuse Sources	52

4.5	Emission into the Hydrosphere	53
4.5.1	Emission during Production and Processing	53
4.5.2	Emission from Use	53
4.6	Emission into the Geo- and Biosphere	54
4.7	Emission through Wastes and Their Treatment	54
4.7.1	Recycling and Regeneration	54
4.3	Balance of Environmental Emissions	55
5.	Environmental Occurrence	56
5.1	Atmosphere.....	56
5.1.1	Ambient Air	57
5.1.1.1	Federal Republic of Germany	57
5.1.1.2	Areas with High Pollution	64
5.1.1.3	Europe	65
5.1.1.4	U.S.A. and Japan	69
5.1.1.5	Himalaya Region	70
5.1.1.6	Ocean, Northern and Southern Hemispheres, Upper Strata of the Atmosphere	70
5.1.2	Soil Spacial Air	76
5.1.2.1	Landfill Gases	79
5.1.3	Room Air	81
5.1.4	Workplace Air	85
5.2	Hydrosphere	85
5.2.1	Surface Water Bodies	85
5.2.1.1	Ocean	85
5.2.1.2	Lakes and Reservoirs	87
5.2.1.3	Rivers	87
5.2.1.4	Rainwater	95
5.2.2	Sediment	97
5.2.3	Ground- and Drinking Water	98
5.2.3.1	Groundwater	99
5.2.3.2	Drinking Water	101
5.2.3.3	Shore Filtrate and Drinking Water Production	105
5.2.4	Landfill Leachate and -Static Water	105
5.2.5	Waste Water	107
5.2.6	Sewage Sludge	111

5.3	Geosphere	112
5.4	Biosphere	113
5.4.1	1,1,1-Tri Levels in Humans	113
5.4.2	1,1,1-Tri Levels in Animals	116
5.4.3	Plants	119
5.4.4	Household Products	119
5.4.5	Foodstuffs	122
5.5	Natural Sources	125
6.	Environmental Behaviour	126
6.1	Transformation Degradation and Degradation Products	126
6.1.1	Biodegradation	126
6.1.1.1	Metabolism	126
6.1.1.2	Aerobic Degradation with Activated Sludge or Waste Water as the Inoculum	129
6.1.1.3	Aerobic Degradation with Special Organisms	131
6.1.1.4	Anaerobic Degradation	132
6.1.1.5	Elimination	135
6.1.2	Hydrolytic Degradation	138
6.1.3	Photochemical Degradation	141
6.1.3.1	Photochemical Degradation in Air	141
6.1.3.1.1	Direct Photochemical Degradation in Air	142
6.1.3.1.2	Indirect Photochemical Degradation in Air	142
6.1.3.1.3	Ozone Depletion Values (ODP = Ozone Depletion Potential)	146
6.1.3.1.4	Ozone Formation	149
6.1.3.2	Photochemical Degradation in Water	149
6.2	Accumulation	150
6.2.1	Bioaccumulation	150
6.2.2	Geoaccumulation	151
6.3	Distributional Behaviour and Transport Processes within and between Environmental Compartments	153
6.3.1	Henry's Law Constant	153
6.3.2	n-Octanol/Water Partition Coefficient	158
6.3.3	Soil Sorption Coefficients	159
6.3.3.1	Distribution between Air and Soil	168
6.4	Environmental Fate	172

7.	Ecotoxicology	174
7.1	Effects on Aquatic Organisms.....	174
7.1.1	Microorganisms	174
7.1.2	Plants	177
7.1.3	Invertebrates	179
7.1.4	Vertebrates	180
7.2	Effects on Terrestrial Organisms	186
7.2.1	Microorganisms	196
7.2.2	Plants	186
7.2.3	Invertebrates	187
7.2.4	Vertebrates	189
7.3	Effects on Ecosystems	189
8.	Toxicity in Warm-Blooded Organisms	190
8.1	General Effects	190
8.2	Mode of Action	192
8.3	Metabolism, Toxicokinetics	193
8.3.1	Absorption	193
8.3.2	Distribution	194
8.3.3	Biotransformation	201
8.3.4	Binding onto Macromolecules	209
8.3.5	Elimination	212
8.4	Acute Toxicity	216
8.4.1	Effect of 1,1,1-Tri on Parenchymal Organs	229
8.4.1.1	<i>In vivo</i> Studies on the Hepatotoxicity and Nephrotoxicity of 1,1,1-Tri	229
8.4.1.2	<i>In vitro</i> Studies on the Hepatotoxicity of 1,1,1-Tri	236
8.4.2	Acute Effect on 1,1,1-Tri on the Cardiovascular System	238
8.5	Skin and Mucous Membrane Tolerance	247
8.5.1	Skin	247
8.5.2	Mucous Membrane	249
8.6	Sensitizing Effect	250
8.7	Subacute, Subchronic and Chronic Toxicity	251
8.7.1	Special Studies on the Subacute and Subchronic Effect of 1,1,1-Tri on Parenchymal Organs	266
8.8	Genotoxicity	270
8.9	Carcinogenicity	286

8.10	Reproductive Toxicity.....	295
8.11	Effect on the Immune System	300
8.12	Other Effects	301
8.12.1	Neurotoxicity	301
8. 12. 1.1	Organ Findings	301
8. 12.1.2	Behavioural Studies under the Influence of 1,1,1-Tri	302
8. 12.1.3	Effect of 1,1,1-Tri on Neurochemical and Neurophysiological Parameters	309
8.12.2	Synergistic Effects on the Toxicity of 1,1,1-Tri	320
8.13	Experiences for Humans	321
8.13.1	Acute Intoxication	321
8.13.1.1	Oral Uptake	321
8.13.1.2	Inhalative Exposure	321
8.13.1.2.1	Observations under Experimental Conditions	321
8.13.1.2.2	Case Histories	327
8.13.1.2.3	1,1,1-Tri Abuse	333
8.13.2	Skin and Mucous Membrane Tolerance	335
8.13.3	Sensitizing Effect	336
8.13.4	Chronic Intoxication	337
8.13.4.1	Observations under Experimental Conditions	337
8.13.4.2	Case Histories	338
8.13.5	Epidemiological Data	341
8.13.5.1	Field Experiences	341
8.13.5.2	Epidemiological Studies on Reproductive Toxicity	345
8.13.6	Metabolism, Toxicokinetics for Humans	349
8.13.6.1	Absorption	349
8.13.6.2	Distribution	351
8.13.6.3	Biotransformation	354
8.13.6.4	Elimination	354
9.	Substance-Specific Legal Regulations	357
10.	Literature	364