

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

Site: NEW BEDFORD
Break: 19.7
Other: 51914

In the Matter of:

Polychlorinated Biphenyls
(PCB's) in Fish and
Shellfish; Reduction of
Tolerances

Docket No. 77N-0080

TESTIMONY OF WILLIAM S. ADAMS

I am a Supervisory Chemist in the Boston District Laboratory of the Food and Drug Administration, Boston, Massachusetts. In this capacity, I directly supervise the analysis of various food samples for residues of pesticide chemicals and other substances, including polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's).

Under my supervision 41 samples^{1/} of lobsters were analyzed for PCB content from August 14, 1979, to June 16, 1981. These analyses were requested by the following agencies of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts: the Division of Environmental Quality Engineering, the Division of Marine Fisheries, and the Division of Environmental Health.

1/ An FDA sample most often consists of more than one lobster and frequently consists of 10 or 12 lobsters. Commonwealth of Massachusetts samples are usually much smaller (an average of about 2 lobsters) than are those collected by FDA.

Twenty-three (23) of these lobster samples were brought to the FDA Boston District Laboratory, usually in groups of 4 to 8 samples, by Massachusetts agents. Each agent presenting a group of samples gave a brief description, either orally or in writing, of the location from which the samples had been taken. I then prepared a collection report for each of the 23 samples based on the agents' information. Eighteen (18) of the samples were submitted by Massachusetts agents to FDA Boston District Investigators, who subsequently prepared the collection reports and then submitted them to the Boston District Laboratory. I assigned the samples to chemists under my supervision for analysis.

According to the agents' information, these 41 lobster samples were all collected in the area of New Bedford Harbor, New Bedford, Massachusetts. Some sections of that harbor have been closed to lobster fishing by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health because of high levels of PCB contamination.

In addition to the above-referenced 41 samples, the Boston District Laboratory also analyzed 9 samples of lobsters which were collected by Boston District Investigators from dealers in the New Bedford area from September 12, 1979, to July 1, 1981.

Twenty-eight (28) other samples of lobsters were also analyzed by the FDA's Boston District Laboratory for PCB's.

Twenty-three (23) of these samples were collected by Boston District Investigators from dealers outside the New Bedford area, and 5 of these samples were provided to the Boston District Laboratory by the Massachusetts Food and Drug Division from unidentified sources.

Attached to this testimony is a summary of the PCB findings in these 3 groups of samples and copies of the collection reports and analytical worksheets for each sample (G-11). At my instruction, Donald C. Young, Pesticide Specialist, Boston District, went to see Dr. John Gates, University of Rhode Island, and gave him copies of the collection reports and analytical worksheets for all of these lobster samples, except for sample numbers INV 80-158-841, INV 80-161-384, and INV 80-156-246.

The results of analysis for all 3 groups of samples, including the 41 samples from New Bedford Harbor, were reported through our routine reporting procedures into the FDA data system. I understand that some but not all of these data have been entered into the record for this hearing.

* * * *

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on Oct. 14, 1981.

William S. Adams
William S. Adams

SUMMARY OF PCB RESULTS IN LOBSTERSI. Lobster Samples Collected from New Bedford Harbor Area
By Commonwealth of Massachusetts Agents

Time Period -- August 14, 1979 - June 16, 1981

Number of Samples -- 41

Results -- PCB's

Range: 2.3 - 68.2 ppm

Average (41): 13.4 ppm

Number of Samples Above 5.0 ppm PCB -- 27

II. Lobster Samples Collected from Dealers in New Bedford
Area By FDA Investigators

Time Period -- September 12, 1979 - July 1, 1981

Number of Samples -- 9

Results -- PCB's

Range: 0.7 - 8.9 ppm

Average (9): 2.8 ppm

Number of Samples Above 5.0 ppm PCB -- 1

III. Lobster Samples Collected from Areas Outside New Bedford
Harbor Area

Time Period -- September 19, 1979 - August 12, 1981

Number of Samples -- 28

Results -- PCB's

Range: Trace - 1.4 ppm

Average (28): 0.4 ppm

Number of Samples above 5.0 ppm PCB -- None

SUMMARY OF PCB RESULTS

I. Lobster Samples Collected From New Bedford Harbor Area by
Commonwealth of Massachusetts Agents

Time Period....August 14, 1979 - June 16, 1981

Number of Samples Collected....41

Results (PCB's).....Range: 2.3 - 68.2 ppm

Average (41): 13.4 ppm

Number of Samples Above 5.0 ppm PCB....27

Sample Number	Product	Date Collected	Collected From: (Area, if known)	PCB's (Aroclor 1254, ppm)
INV 79-106-178	Fresh Lobster	8/14/79	Tom Petelle State of Mass., D.E.Q.E. Lawrence Experimental Sta. Lawrence, MA (New Bedford Harbor)	12.4
INV 79-106-179	Fresh Lobster	8/14/79	"	11.6
INV 79-106-180	Fresh Lobster	8/08/79	"	68.2
INV 79-106-181	Fresh Lobster	8/08/79	"	15.4
INV 79-106-183	Fresh Lobster	8/16/79	"	30.3
INV 79-106-184	Fresh Lobster	8/16/79	"	31.1
INV 79-106-185	Fresh Lobster	8/16/79	"	29.6
INV 79-106-186	Fresh Lobster	8/16/79	"	63.4
INV 79-106-187	Fresh Lobster	8/16/79	"	37.4
INV 79-106-189	Fresh Lobster	8/16/79	"	23.8
INV 80-158-842	Frozen Lobster	10/15/79	John Fisk Mass. Div. Marine Fisheries Boston, MA -given to M. Dowgert, CSO (New Bedford Harbor)	12.3 (Orig.) 10.6 (Check)
INV 80-158-841*	Frozen Lobster	10/15/79	"	9.4
INV 80-158-843	Frozen Lobster	10/15/79	"	2.9
INV 80-158-844	Frozen Lobster	10/15/79	"	10.4 (Orig.) 6.8 (Check)
INV 80-158-845	Frozen Lobster	10/15/79	"	2.3

Comments for this sample were not available for submission to Dr. John Gates

Sample Number	Product	Date Collected	Collected From: (Area, if known)	PCB's (Aroclor 1254, ppm)
80-158-846	Frozen Lobster	10/15/79	John Fisk Mass. Div. Marine Fisheries Boston, MA (given to M. Dowgert, CSO) (New Bedford Harbor)	35.2 (Orig.) 26.7 (Check)
80-158-847	Frozen Lobster	10/16/79	" (given to A. Warchut, CSO)	3.8
80-159-306	Fresh Lobster	10/19/79	Elise Comproni Mass. Div. Environmental Health Boston, MA (New Bedford Harbor)	Sub ppm (1) 19.5 (orig.) (2) 8.3 (3) 6.3 Ave. 11.3 (1) 11.2 (check) (2) 6.5 (3) 5.7 Ave. 7.8
80-159-307	Fresh Lobster	10/19/79	"	15.3 (Orig.) 9.2 (Check)
80-159-308	Fresh Lobster	10/19/79	"	7.6 (Orig.) 7.1 (Check)
80-159-309	Fresh Lobster	10/19/79	"	6.0 (Orig.) 6.5 (Check)
80-159-310	Fresh Lobster	10/19/79	"	6.7 (Orig.) 5.6 (Check)
80-106-161	Frozen Lobster	10/31/79	Andrew Kolek Mass. Div. Marine Fisheries Sandwich, MA (given to A. Warchut, CSO) (New Bedford Harbor)	7.9
80-159-162	Frozen Lobster	10/31/79	"	4.9
80-159-163	Frozen Lobster	10/31/79	"	4.7
80-159-164	Frozen Lobster	10/31/79	"	10.6
80-159-165	Frozen Lobster	10/31/79	"	7.1

Sample Number	Product	Date Collected	Collected From: (Area, if known)	PCB's Aroclor 1254, ppm)
INW 80-159-612	Frozen Lobster	1/28/80	John Fisk Mass. Div. Marine Fisheries Boston, MA (given to Mr. Dowgert, CSO) (New Bedford Harbor)	9.3
INW 80-159-613	Frozen Lobster	1/28/80	"	4.3
INW 80-159-614	Frozen Lobster	1/28/80	"	2.9
INW 80-159-615	Frozen Lobster	1/28/80	"	7.9
INW 80-159-616	Frozen Lobster	1/28/80	"	2.8
INW 80-159-617	Frozen Lobster	1/28/80	"	7.0
INW 81-253-946	Fresh Lobster	6/15/81	Al Comproni Mass. Dept. Public Health Boston, MA (New Bedford Harbor)	2.6
81-253-947	Fresh Lobster	6/8/81 6/15/81	"	6.8
81-253-948	Fresh Lobster	6/8/81 6/12/81	"	8.9
81-253-949	Fresh Lobster	6/8/81 6/15/81	"	1.5
81-253-950	Fresh Lobster	6/8/81 6/12/81	"	5.9
81-253-951	Fresh Lobster	6/16/81 6/24/81	"	4.0
81-253-952	Fresh Lobster	6/15/81 6/24/81	"	1.98
81-253-953	Fresh Lobster	6/8/81 6/12/81 6/16/81	"	4.79

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

II. Lobster Samples Collected from Dealers in New Bedford Area by
FDA Investigators

Time Period: September 12, 1979 through July 1, 1981

Number of Samples Collected: 9

Results: PCB's

Range: 0.7 - 8.9 ppm

Average (9): 2.8 ppm

Number of Samples Above 5.0 ppm PCB: 1

Sample Number	Product	Date Collected	Collected from: (Area - if known)	PCB's (Aroclor 1254, ppm)
78-191-096	Fresh Lobsters	9/12/79	Dealer: Macleans of Fairhaven, Fairhaven, MA, (Area - Buzzards Bay, Fairhaven, MA) FDA CSO F. Mazzoni	8.9
78-159-652	Fresh Lobsters	9/21/79	Dealer: Clark's Cove Fish Co., New Bedford, MA (Area - Buzzards Bay, MA)	0.7
80-159-879	Fresh Lobsters	10/02/79	Dealer: Macleans Seafood, Fairhaven, MA (Area - Buzzards Bay, MA) FDA CSO M. Dowgart	3.0
INTV. 80-155-927	Fresh Lobsters	9/05/80	Dealer: Seafood Services, Fairhaven, MA (Area - outside Buzzards Bay, MA) FDA CSO J. Vozella	1.7
INTV. 80-155-928	Fresh Lobsters	9/05/80	Dealer: Seafood Services, Inc., Fairhaven, MA FDA CSO J. Vozella	1.0
INTV. 80-155-929	Fresh Lobsters	9/12/80	Dealer: " " "	1.9
81-254-456	Fresh Lobsters	5/20/81	Dealer: Clark's Cove Fish Co., New Bedford, MA (Area - New Bedford Harbor) FDA CSI L. Kopkind	4.26
81-254-457	Fresh Lobsters	5/26/81	Maclean Seafoods, Fairhaven, MA FDA CSI L. Kopkind	1.12
81-254-223	Fresh Lobsters	7/01/81	Clark's Cove Fish Co., New Bedford, MA FDA CSI L. Kopkind	2.43

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

III. Lobster Samples Collected from Areas Outside New Bedford Harbor Area

Time Period: September 19, 1979 through August 12, 1981

Number of Samples Collected: 28

Results: PCB's

Range: Trace - 1.4 ppm

Average (28): - 0.4 ppm

Number of Samples Above 5.0 ppm: None

Sample Number	Product	Date Collected	Collected from: (Area - if known)	PCB's (Aroclor 1254, ppm)
INV. 79-159-301	Lobster Meat (composite prepared by St. of Mass FDA)	9/19/79	Fred Hanna, St. of Mass. FDA, Boston, MA (source-unknown)	Trace
INV. 79-159-302	Lobster Meat (composite)	9/19/79	" " "	0.7
INV. 79-159-303	Lobster Meat (composite)	9/19/79	" " "	1.1
INV. 79-159-304	Lobster Meat (composite)	9/19/79	" " "	0.3
INV. 79-159-305	Lobster Meat (composite)	9/19/79	" " "	0.2
79-196-909	Fresh Lobsters	3/14/79	Dealer: Bay State Lobster Co., Boston, MA (Area - Maine Coast) FDA CSO; C. Chancey	0.3
79-196-910	Fresh Lobsters	3/14/79	Dealer: National Lobster Co., Boston, MA (Area - Maine Coast) FDA CSO; C. Chancey	0.2
79-196-911	Fresh Lobsters	3/14/79	Dealer: James Hook & Co. Boston, MA (Area 0 Maine Coast) FDA CSO; C. Chancey	0.3
79-196-912	Fresh Lobsters	3/14/79	Dealer: Neptune Lobster Co., Boston, MA (Area - Maine Coast) FDA CSO; C. Chancey	Trace
INV. 79-196-913	Fresh Lobsters	3/14/79	Dealer: Pauls Lobster Co., Boston, MA (Area - Maine Coast) FDA CSO; C. Chancey	0.2
INV. 79-196-914	Fresh Lobsters	3/14/79	Dealer: Harbor Lobster Corp., Boston, MA (Area - Maine Coast) FDA CSO; C. Chancey	0.2
79-190-818	Fresh Lobsters	9/20/79	Dealer: Stone House Fish-market, Guilford, CT (Area - New Bedford & Maine) FDA CSO; E. Miga	0.5

Sample Number	Product	Date Collected	Collected from: (Area - if known)	PCB's (Aroclor 1254, ppm)
79-190-819	Fresh Lobsters	9/20/79	Dealer: Stone House Fish-market, Guilford, CT (Area - New Bedford & Maine) FDA CSO; E. Miga	0.3
79-190-820	Fresh Lobsters	9/20/79	Dealer: " " "	0.3
80-159-077	Fresh Lobsters	5/28/80	Dealer: Joseph F. Marconi, Portsmouth, NH (Area - off Portsmouth, NH) FDA CSO; D. Gallant	0.3
INV. 80-159-078	Fresh Lobsters	5/30/80	Dealer: D. LaCava & Sons, Portsmouth, NH; FDA CSOs D. Gallant & R. Jewell	Trace
INV. 80-160-971	Fresh Lobsters	7/09/80	Dealer: Westbrook Lobster Co., Seaside Fish Market, Westbrook, CT	Trace
INV. 80-160-972	Fresh Lobsters	7/09/80	Dealer: Dick's Marina, Westbrook, CT; FDA CSO R. Jewell	0.4
INV. 80-161-187	Fresh Lobsters	7/18/80	Dealer: Channcey Creek Lobster Co., Kittery Pt., ME	0.4
INV. 80-156-384 *	Fresh Lobsters	9/18/80	Dealer: Overton's Boat Rental, E. Norwalk, CT; FDA CSO R. Jewell	1.2
INV. 80-156-246 *	Fresh Lobsters	9/25/80	Dealer: Peter Darling, Gundy's Harbor, ME; FDA CSO J. Keller	0.2
81-155-810	Fresh Lobsters	10/15/80	Bay State Lobster Co., Boston, MA; FDA CSO J. Tanner	1.4
81-253-821	Fresh Lobsters	5/22/81	Dealer: J. Marconi, Portsmouth, NH; FDA CSO J. Ridings	0.34
INV. 81-253-707	Fresh Lobsters	5/26/81	Dealer: Lacava Snappy Lobsters, Portsmouth, NH; FDA CSO J. Ridings	0.47
INV. 81-253-708	Fresh Lobsters	5/26/81	" " "	0.28

* Documents for this sample were not available for submission to Dr. John Gates