

Food Crime

An Analysts View

JANE WHITE

GLASGOW SCIENTIFIC SERVICES

Food Crime

Legislative Framework

Some Common Issues

Analytical Methods

Analytical Limitations

Evidential Rigor

The Future





History

Saw Dust in tea

Watered Beer

Unfit meat

Public Analysts

- Over 150 years
- MChemA - RSC





Food Crime Unit - FSS

Organised Crime

Length of Food Chain

Global Market

Intelligence driven





Legislative Framework

Food Safety Act 1990

The General Food Regulations 2004

EU regulation - 178/2002 –Article 14 – Unfit for human consumption

Sampling and Qualification Regulations 2013

Secondary Legislation

Food And Feed Enforcement Laboratories



Injurious to Health

Adding or removing a substance so that the food causes harm

- **Glass in baby food**
- **Melamine in baby milk**
- **Allergens**

Unfit for Human Consumption



Nature - Substance - Quality





Misleading Description

Traditional Dairy Ice cream containing vegetable fat

Vodka with 20% alcohol

This may also be applicable to pictorial representation

Formal Sampling

Three part sample

- Portion 1 – Enforcement Lab
- Portion 2- Business Operator
- Portion 3 – Reference sample

Homogeneous

Sample size

Laboratory of the Government Chemist

Common Issues

Substitution

- Meat
- Fish
- Cheese
- Wine and Spirits

Adulteration

- Added water
- Melamine
- Sudan Colours
- Allergens



Meat

Species substitution

Breed substitution

Added Water

Protein

MRM

Offal

Country of Origin



Analysis

Speciation

- DNA – PCR
- ELISA

Added Water

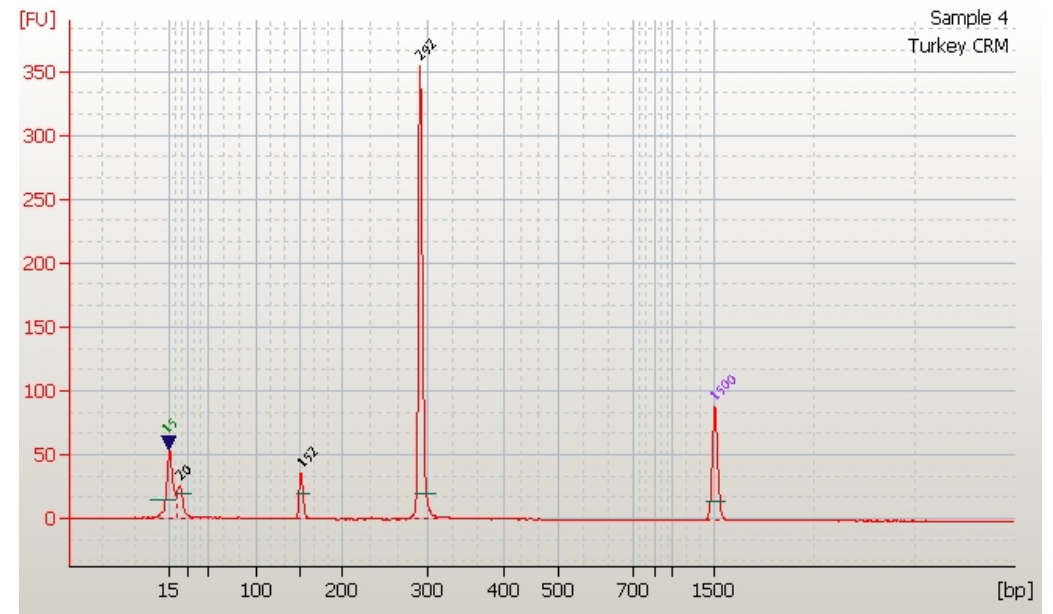
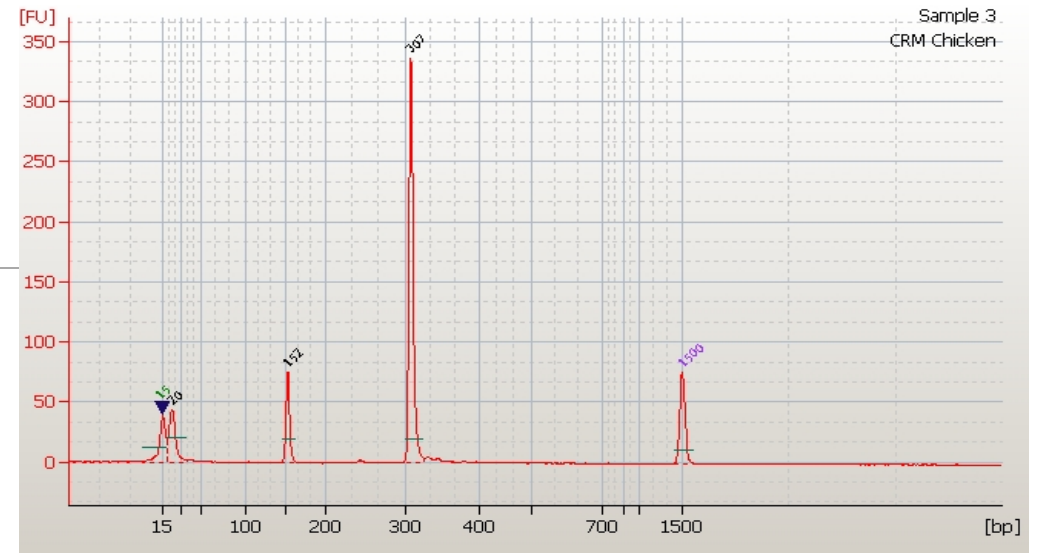
- Nutritional analysis

MRM/Offal

- Specific Proteins/ Microscopy

Origin

- Isotope Ratio



Fish/Shellfish

Substitution

**Illegal fishing/harvesting
grounds**

Unfit





Analysis

PCR

Freshness

- Histamine – HPLC fluorescence
- TVBN

Shellfish toxins

- HPLC
- LC/MS/MS

Fish Species	Ddel			HaeIII		
Haddock (Melanogrammus aeglefinus)	418-462			34-46		404-447
Whiting (Merlangius merlangus)	114-126		342-378	33-45	100-110	314-347
Atlantic Cod (Gadus morhua)	78-105	114-126	232-257	33-45	101-112	308-340



Alcoholic Drinks

Vodka

Industrial alcohol

- Markers for industrial alcohol

Whisky

Brand Substitution

- Congeners

Wines

Origin issues

- Lead isotope ratio

Traceability



Continuity of evidence

Samples as received

Tamperproof

Paper trail

Recording all your finding

Pictures

Corroboration of results



Robustness of Analysis

Accredited Methods

Validation

Appropriate Quality Control

- Spikes
- Labelled standards
- Duplicate analysis
- Proficiency Testing Schemes

Uncertainty of Measurement



Limitations

Data Bases

Non Specific Primers

Availability of Standards

Matrix Issues



Future considerations

Development of Accessible Data Base

Continuing collaboration between National Reference Laboratories and Official Control Laboratories

Funding of research into rapid - robust techniques

Acceptance that enforcement costs are higher than route analysis

Questions



Legacy Flame Retardants,
Emerging Flame Retardants
and dioxins: Links and tools
for risk assessment



WHERE FLAME RETARDANTS ARE FOUND

In home insulation

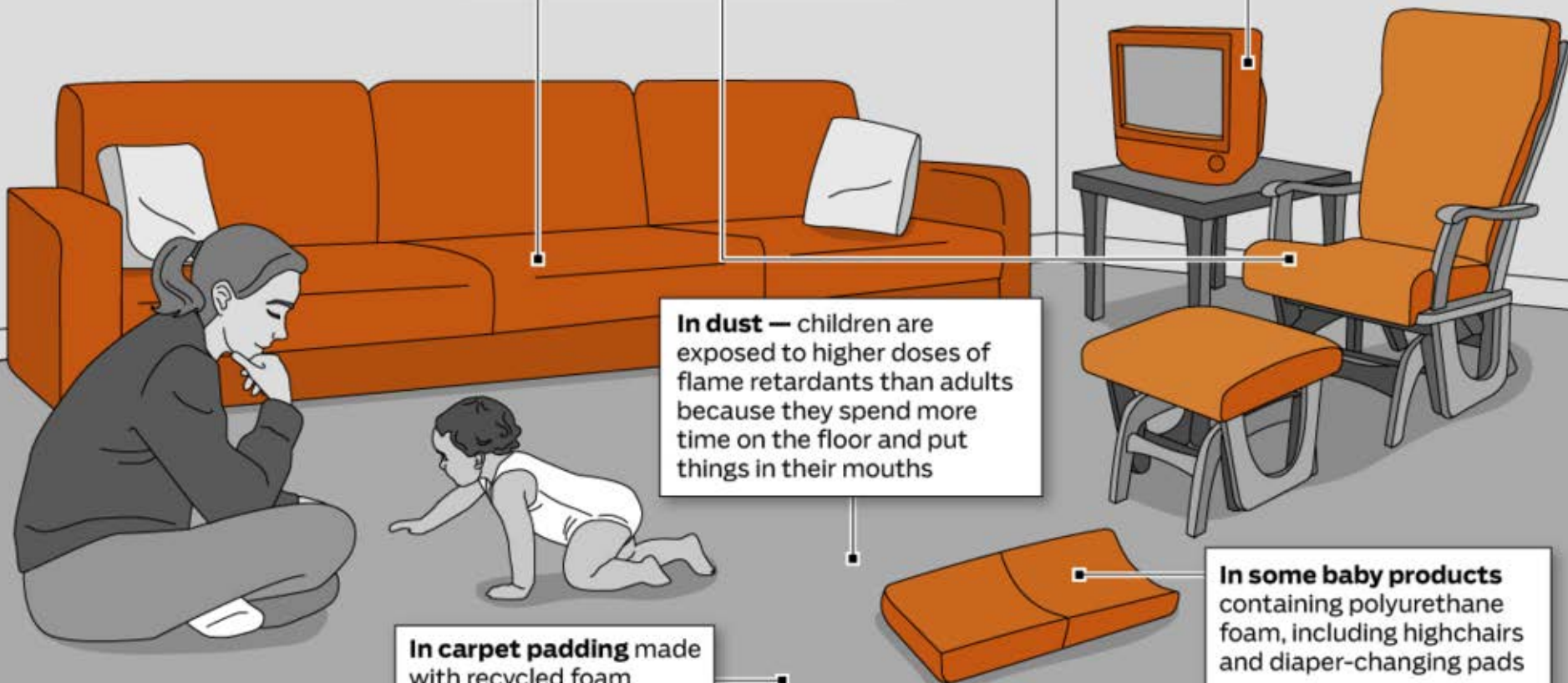
In upholstered furniture containing polyurethane foam — manufacturers add it to meet flammability standards enacted by California but followed nationwide

In the plastic casing of some electronics

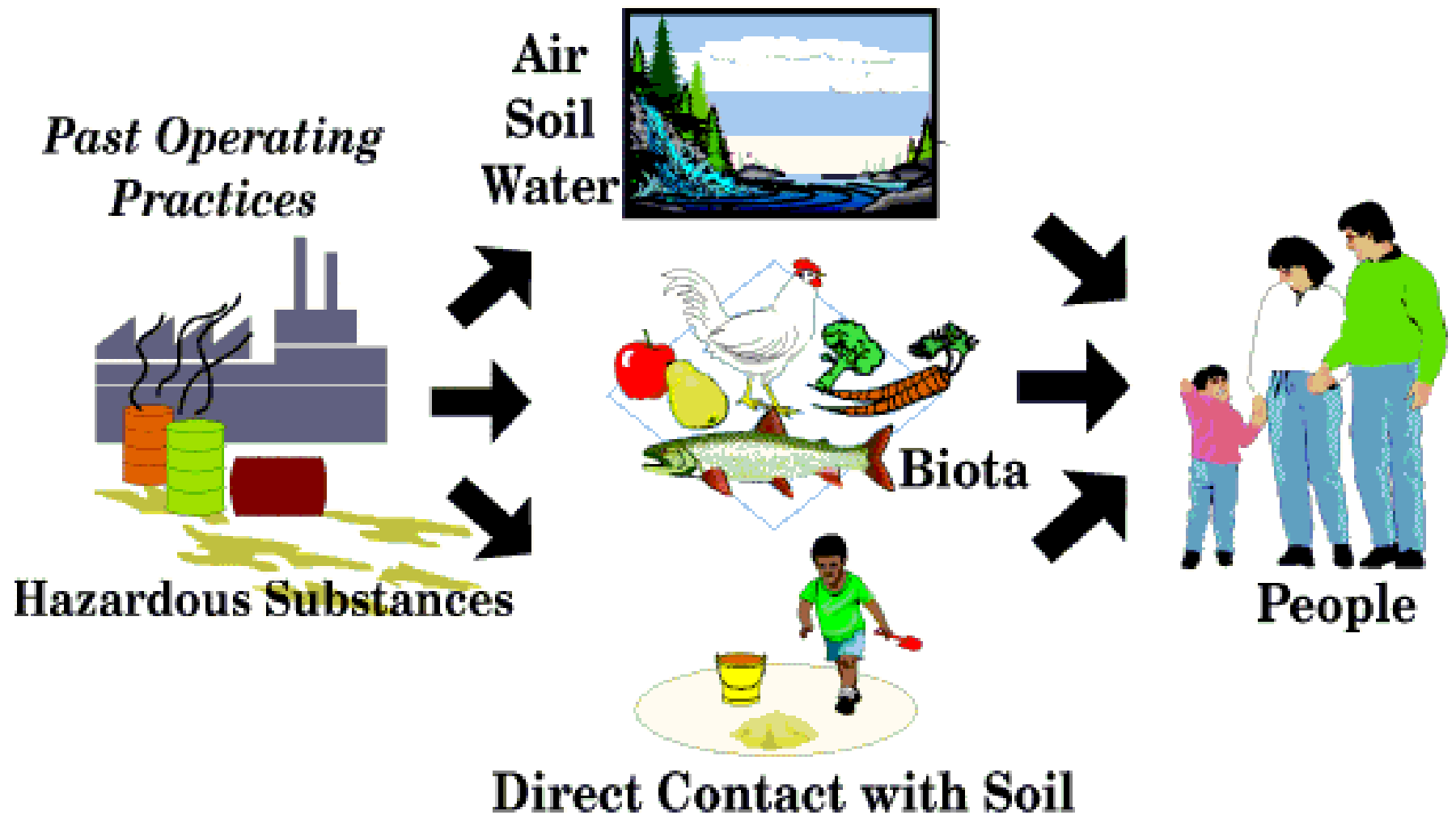
In dust — children are exposed to higher doses of flame retardants than adults because they spend more time on the floor and put things in their mouths

In carpet padding made with recycled foam

In some baby products containing polyurethane foam, including highchairs and diaper-changing pads



Exposure Pathways



Terminology

- **Legacy or Established FRs** (BFRs/CFRs/PFRs) are chemicals which are extensively documented regarding production and use as FRs, chemistry, fate, exposures, environment and health issues (i.e. (eco-) toxicity and/or human health effects).
- **Emerging FRs** (BFRs/CFRs/PFRs) are chemicals which are documented regarding production and use as FRs that have been shown to occur/distribute to the environment and/or wildlife, humans or other biological matrices.
- **Novel FRs** (BFRs/CFRs/PFRs) are chemicals which are documented as potential FRs that have been shown to be present in materials or products.
- **Potential FRs** (BFRs/CFRs/PFRs) are chemicals reported to have applications as FRs (e.g. in patents).



Contents lists available at SciVerse ScienceDirect

Environment International

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/envint



Review

A novel abbreviation standard for organobromine, organochlorine and organophosphorus flame retardants and some characteristics of the chemicals

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ARTICLE INFO

Article history:

Received 21 March 2012

Accepted 10 August 2012

Available online xxxx

Keywords:

Brominated flame retardants

Chlorinated flame retardants

Phosphorus flame retardants

Nomenclature

Abbreviations

Physico-chemical properties

ABSTRACT

Ever since the interest in organic environmental contaminants first emerged 50 years ago, there has been a need to present discussion of such chemicals and their transformation products using simple abbreviations so as to avoid the repetitive use of long chemical names. As the number of chemicals of concern has increased, the number of abbreviations has also increased dramatically, sometimes resulting in the use of different abbreviations for the same chemical. In this article, we propose abbreviations for flame retardants (FRs) substituted with bromine or chlorine atoms or including a functional group containing phosphorus, i.e. BFRs, CFRs and PFRs, respectively. Due to the large number of halogenated and organophosphorus FRs, it has become increasingly important to develop a strategy for abbreviating the chemical names of FRs. In this paper, a two step procedure is proposed for deriving *practical abbreviations* (PRABs) for the chemicals discussed. In the first step, *structural abbreviations* (STABs) are developed using specific STAB criteria based on the FR structure. However, since several of the derived STABs are complicated and long, we propose instead the use of PRABs. These are, commonly, an extract

Legacy BFRs

- Reactive BFRs – Covalently bonded to polymer
 - Tetrabromobisphenol-A
 - Tetrabromophthalic Anhydride
- Additive Flame Retardants – Blended with polymer
 - Polybrominated diphenyl ethers
 - Polybrominated biphenyls
 - Hexabromocyclododecane

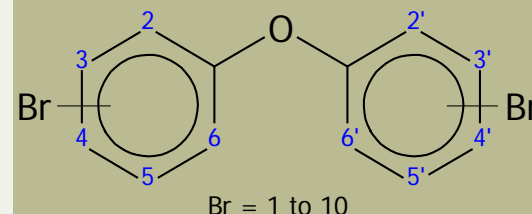


PBBs and PBDEs

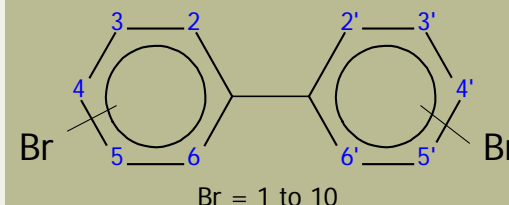
- Additive flame retardants
- PCBs were used from 1920s-1980s
- PBBs No longer used - Michigan 1976 Firemaster mixed with cattle feed
- PBDEs sold in distillation fractions
Penta, Octa and DecaBDE
Individual congeners numbered as PCBs

- Used in...
 - Plastics
 - Upholstery
 - Textiles
 - Foams
 - Wiring
- Can be > 15% w/w !

Polybrominated diphenyl ether
(PBDE)

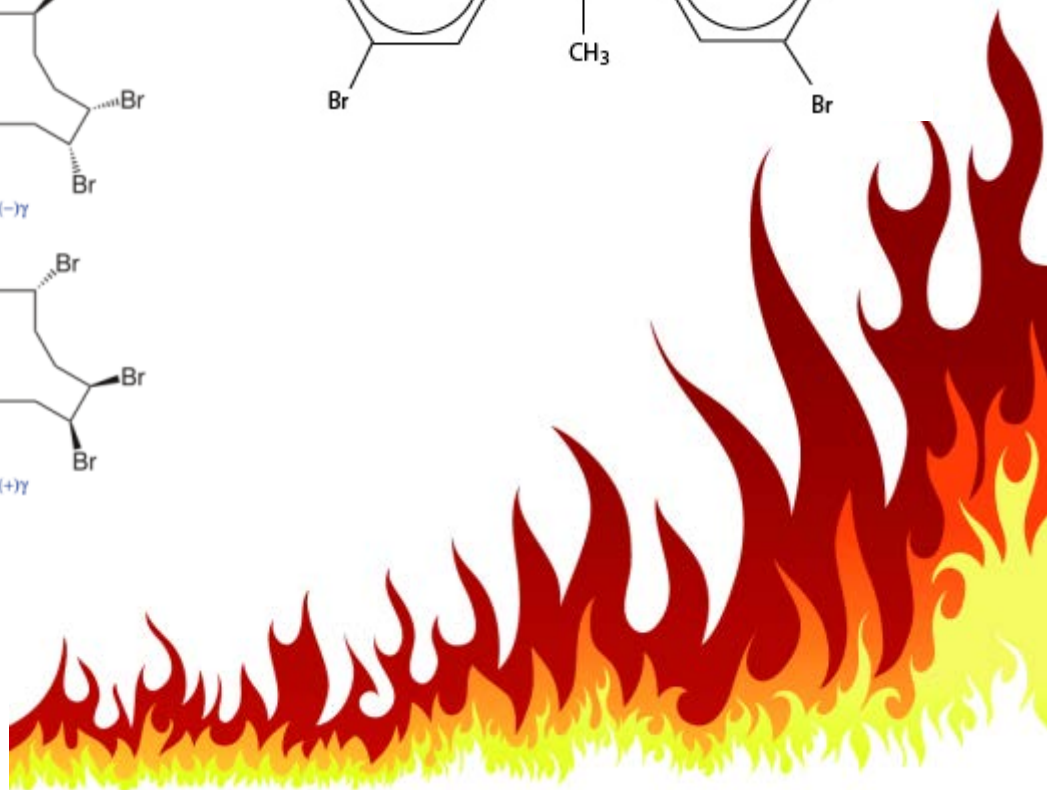
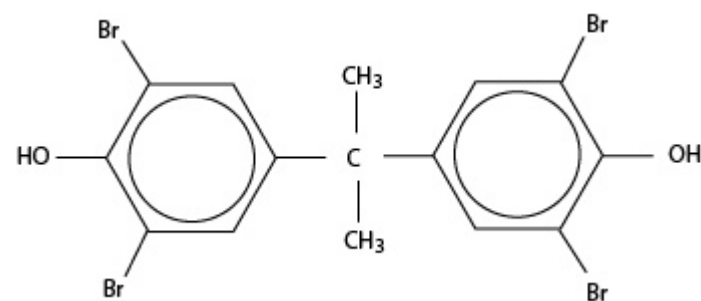
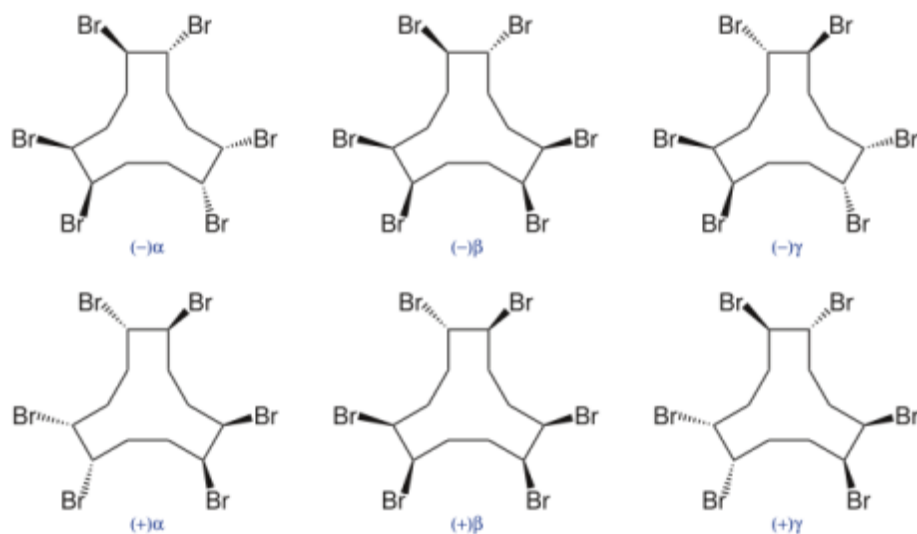


Polybrominated Biphenyl
(PBB)



HBCDD, TBBPA...

- Replacements for PBDEs



Next steps – new and emerging BFRs

- industrial and commercial demand arising from the restrictions of the previously commonly used BFRs will be filled by an increasing number of alternative flame retardants in order to comply with fire safety regulations



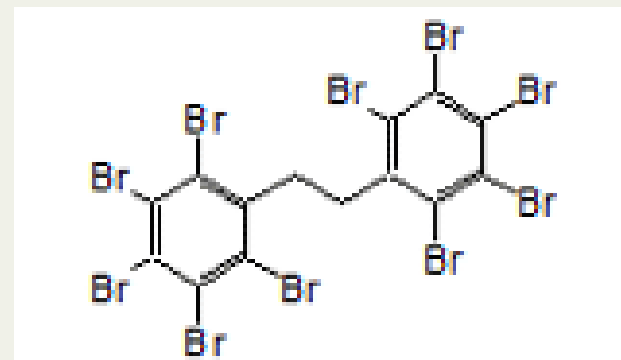
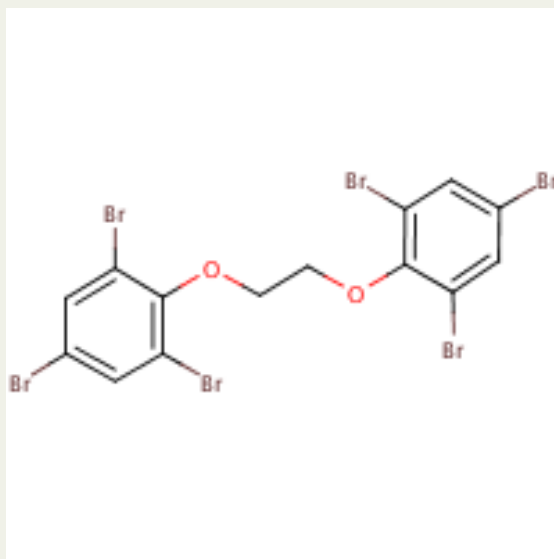
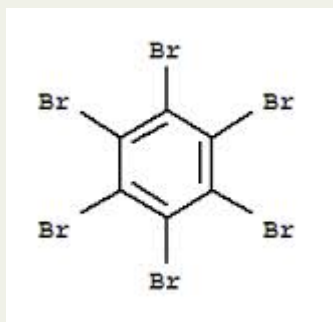
Emerging FRs

- Many potential BFRs, CFRs and PFRs have been registered (many 100s when congeners and enantiomers are considered)
- Current production volume of BFRs exceeds 200,000 tonnes/year
- 600,000 tonnes/year of chlorinated paraffins in China alone (multiple applications)



Some emerging FRs already found in the environment and foods

- hexabromobenzene (HBB)
- bis (2,4,6-tribromophenoxy)ethane (BTBPE)
- decabromodiphenylethane (DBDPE)



- similar properties to PBDEs (chemical stability arising from halogenated aromaticity and low aqueous solubility)

SCIENTIFIC OPINION

Scientific Opinion on Emerging and Novel Brominated Flame Retardants (BFRs) in Food¹

EFSA Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain^{2,3}

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), Parma, Italy

SCIENTIFIC OPINION

Scientific Opinion on Brominated Flame Retardants (BFRs) in Food: Brominated Phenols and their Derivatives¹

EFSA Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain (CONTAM)^{2,3}

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), Parma, Italy

SCIENTIFIC OPINION

Scientific Opinion on Tetrabromobisphenol A (TBBPA) and its derivatives in food¹

EFSA Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain (CONTAM)^{2,3}

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), Parma, Italy

SCIENTIFIC OPINION

Scientific Opinion on Hexabromocyclododecanes (HBCDDs) in Food¹

EFSA Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain (CONTAM)^{2,3}

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), Parma, Italy

SCIENTIFIC OPINION

Scientific Opinion on Polybrominated Diphenyl Ethers (PBDEs) in Food¹

EFSA Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain (CONTAM)^{2,3}

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), Parma, Italy

SCIENTIFIC OPINION

Scientific Opinion on Polybrominated Biphenyls (PBBs) in Food¹

EFSA Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain (CONTAM)^{2,3}

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), Parma, Italy

- tris(2,3-dibromopropyl) phosphate (TDBPP) and dibromoneopentyl glycol (DBNPG)
- genotoxic and carcinogenic
- poor environmental stability and high chemical reactivity
- not expected to occur in foods.



Commission Recommendation 2014/118/EU

5.3.2014

EN

Official Journal of the European Union

L 65/39

COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

of 3 March 2014

on the monitoring of traces of brominated flame retardants in food

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2014/118/EU)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

- (5) EFSA recommended, for a number of those classes, that further data on levels in food and in humans should be gathered.

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European

Levels of BFRs in food of animal origin could be related to the presence of these substances in animal feed, therefore, a recommendation as regards the monitoring of animal feed is likely to follow in 2015

Which emerging FRs to measure?

- Targeted approach

- Environmental persistence
- Bioavailability
- Toxicity
- Occurrence in biota and food

Science shows the need for better PBT criteria

Where PBT identification is concerned, it is important that scientific studies of various persistent environmental substances are taken into account. This is also the case for the PBT concept itself. However, the scientific studies of chemicals in the laboratory can be very different from the real environment. For example, a single study can show that a chemical is persistent in the laboratory, but it may be degraded in the environment. On the other hand, a chemical may be persistent in the environment, but it may be degraded in the laboratory. Therefore, it is important to consider the whole picture when assessing the environmental fate of chemicals. This is why the PBT criteria need to be revised to take into account the whole picture.

What we want

What we want is a PBT criteria that is based on the whole picture. This means that we need to consider the whole picture when assessing the environmental fate of chemicals. This is why the PBT criteria need to be revised to take into account the whole picture.

Substitution is possible

Many companies have already successfully replaced chemicals with less persistent, bioavailable and/or toxic substances. This shows that substitution is possible. However, it is important to consider the whole picture when assessing the environmental fate of chemicals. This is why the PBT criteria need to be revised to take into account the whole picture.

How to reduce or avoid the intake of PBT/ vPvB chemicals

- Pay attention to product information and labels containing information on the environmental fate of chemicals.
- Use the less persistent, bioavailable and/or toxic substances when possible.
- Avoid high intake of chemicals, especially when using products containing PBT/vPvB chemicals.
- Pay attention to the use of chemicals in the home and in the workplace.
- Avoid contact with chemicals, especially when using products containing PBT/vPvB chemicals.
- Pay attention to the use of chemicals in the home and in the workplace.

Invisible burden

Good reasons to get rid of PBT chemicals

What we want is a PBT criteria that is based on the whole picture. This means that we need to consider the whole picture when assessing the environmental fate of chemicals. This is why the PBT criteria need to be revised to take into account the whole picture.

EXPECTING A BABY?

ADVICE ABOUT CHEMICALS AND PREGNANCY

READY FOR THE STORK

CHEMICALS AND PREGNANCY

Danish Ministry of the Environment
Environmental Protection Agency

Prioritisation of emerging BFRs

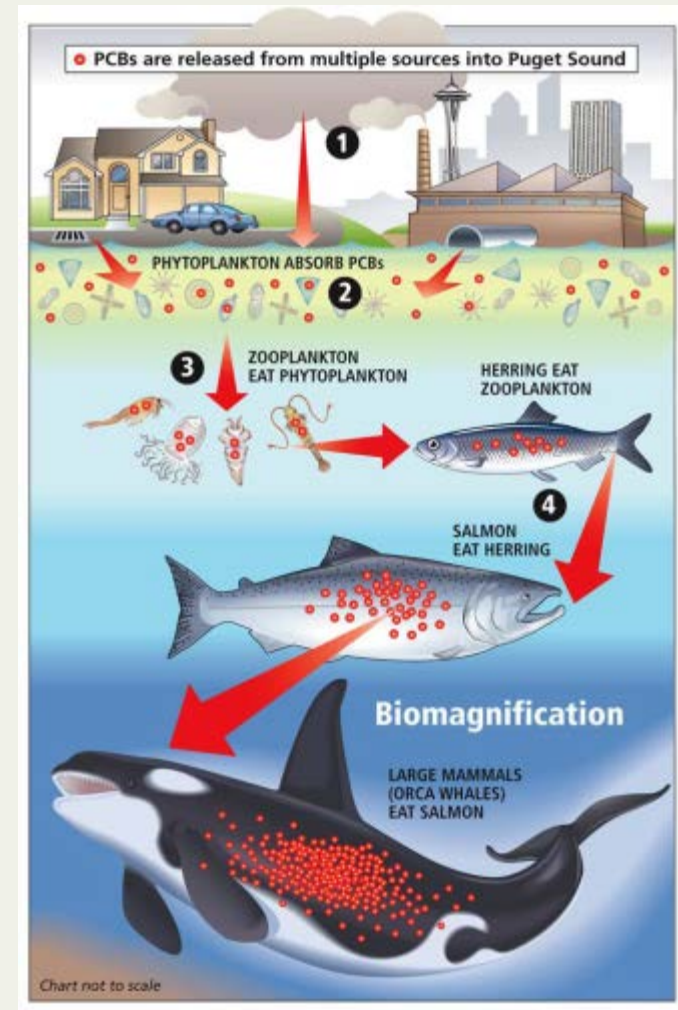
- high overall persistence (>500 days)
- potential for bioaccumulation
- identification in the environment or food



**From the moment they are born
over 200 chemicals course through
their veins.**

Killer chemicals in
the environment

bonvictor.blogspot.com



Top 10 emerging BFRs

- hexabromobenzene (HBB),
- 1,2-bis(2,4,6-tribromophenoxy)ethane (BTBPE),
- 5,6-dibromo-1,10,11,12,13,13-hexachloro-11-tricyclo[8.2.1.0^{2,9}]tridecene (DBHCTD),
- 1,2,3,4,7,7-hexachloro-5-(2,3,4,5-tetrabromophenyl)-bicyclo[2.2.1]hept-2-ene (HCTBPH),
- pentabromotoluene (PBT),
- pentabromobenzyl acrylate (PBB-Acr),
- pentabromoethylbenzene (PBEB)
- 1,2,4,5-tetrabromo-3,6-dimethylbenzene (TBX)
- decabromodiphenyl ethane (DBDPE)
- octabromotrimethylphenyl indane (OBTMPI)



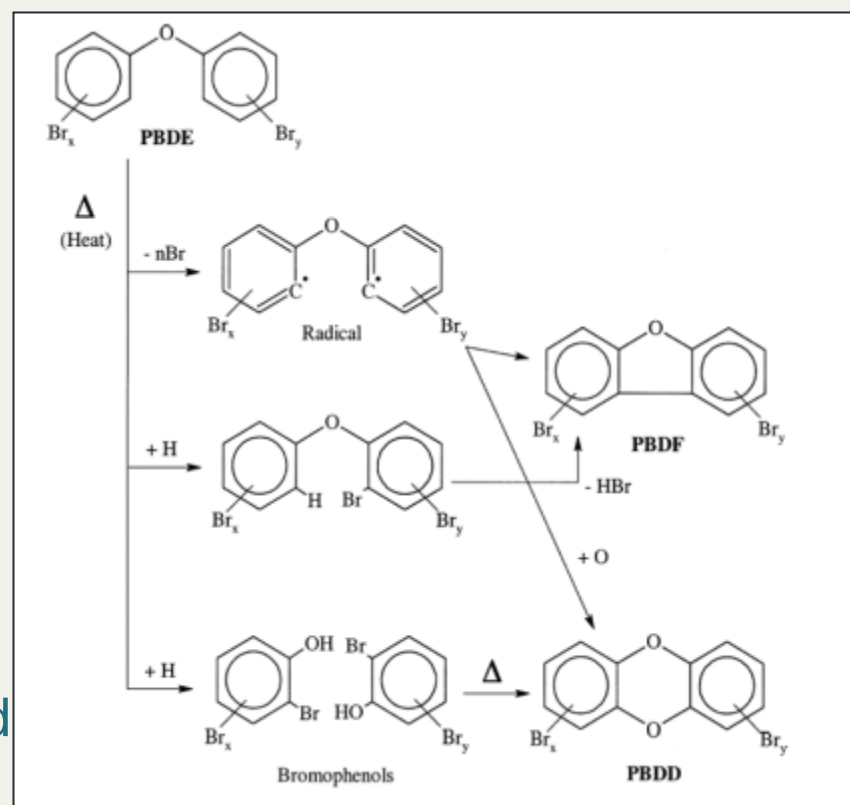
Risk assessment – Impact of exposure

- links between exposure to chemicals in the environment and resulting human and environmental health effects
 - Risk assessment of environmental contaminants
 - Pathways of environmental contaminants in the environment
- Emerging contaminants
- Health effects
- Diet and health

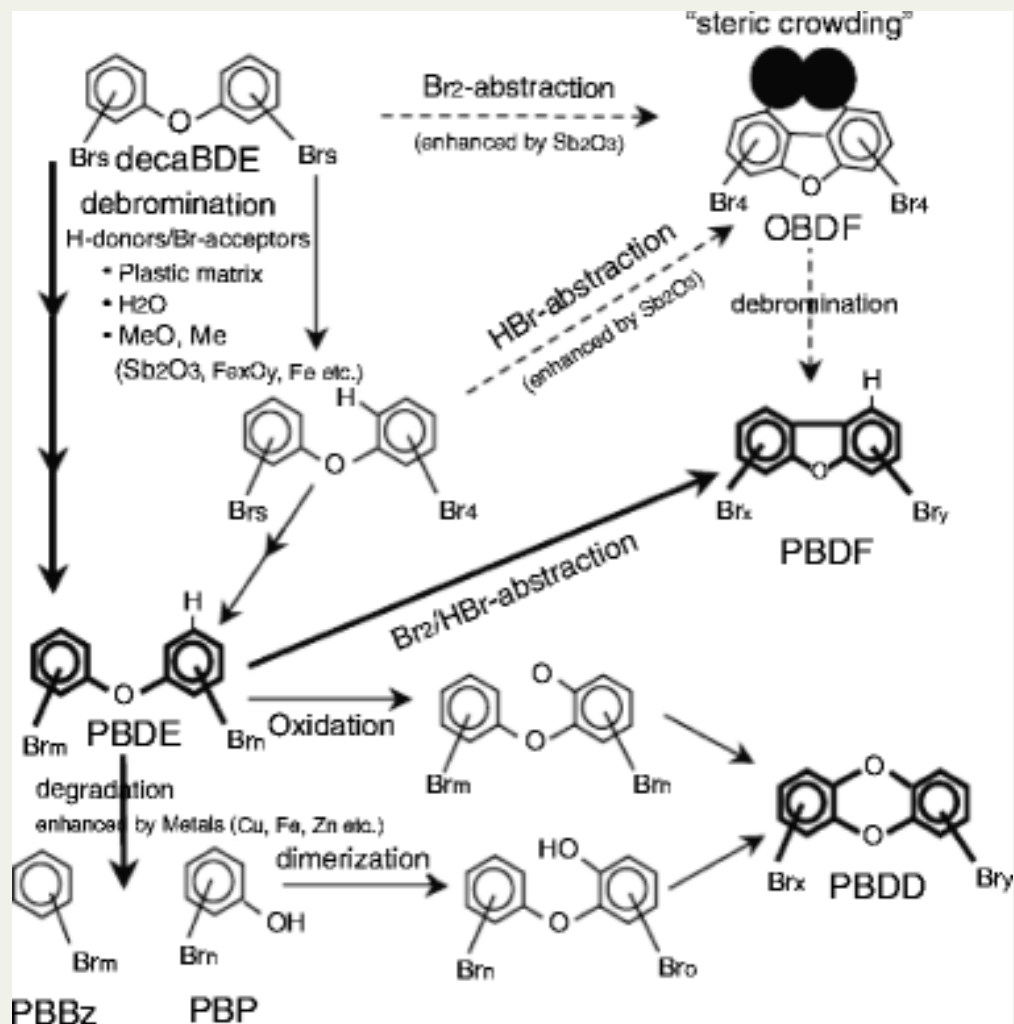


BFRs can form Brominated Dioxins and Furans (PBDD/Fs)

- PBDD/Fs
 - 210 congeners
 - Thermal breakdown products of brominated organics
 - Formed from burning of BFRs in plastics
 - Highly toxic and persistent
 - Mimic hormones - Thyroxine
 - Some congeners more toxic than 2,3,7,8-substituted chlorinated dioxins



Various mechanisms



Formation of polybrominated dibenzofurans (PBDFs) after heating of a salmon sample spiked with decabromodiphenyl ether (BDE-209)

Walter Vetter • Paul Bendig • Marina Blumenstein •
Florian Hägele • Peter A. Behnisch • Abraham Brouwer

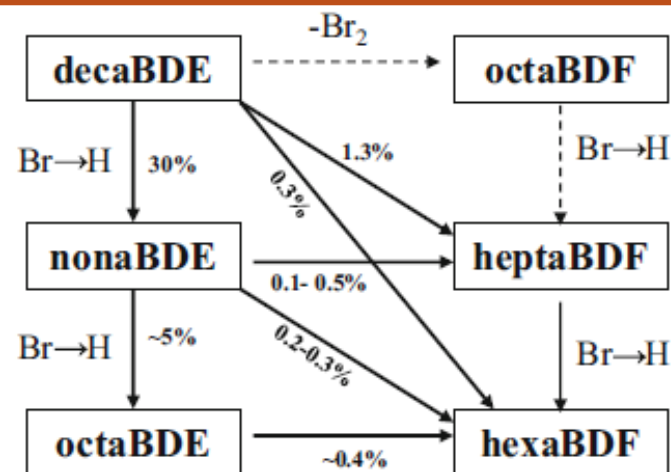


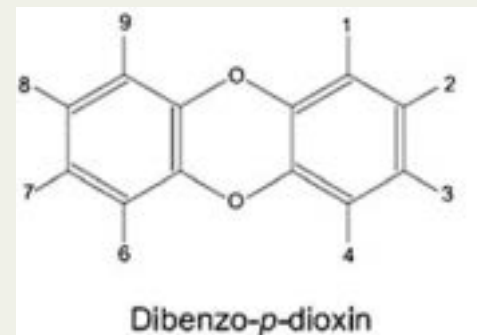
Fig. 3 Transformation scheme for polybrominated diphenyl ethers decaBDE (BDE-209, nonaBDE (BDE-206, BDE-207/208) and octaBDE (BDE-196, BDE-199) by hydrodebromination (*left panel*) and by dehydrobromination into octa- to hexabromodibenzofurans (*right panel*) along with the conversion rates observed by the heating of the corresponding PBDEs in 1 g of fish for 30 min. *Dashed arrows* represent potential pathways not verified by the experiments. *Ranges* represent compound-specific variations of the isomers mentioned above

Mixed Cl- and Br- dioxins may be formed where there is also a source of chlorine

PXDD; PXDF; PXB

PXDD/Fs and PXBs

- Between 7-11 of 13 measured congeners detected (biosolids, CLOs, MBMAs, PLA2 and RWW 1 and 2)
- Total sum 0.2-3.0 ng/kg DS (compared to 4.9-4369 ng/kg DS for PCDD/Fs)
- Small subset of the potentially large number of laterally substituted mixed halogenated congeners



Dealing with mixtures



- Easy for chlorinated dioxins!

- WHO-TEQ - a simplified expression of the toxicities of the different PCBs and dioxins as one number

$$\text{WHO-TEQ} = \sum [\text{PCDD}_i \times \text{TEF}_i] + \sum [\text{PCDF}_i \times \text{TEF}_i] + \sum [\text{PCB}_i \times \text{TEF}_i]$$



Substitution :									
Compound	Mono	Di	Tri	Tetra	Penta	Hexa	Hepta	Octa	Total
PBDD	2	10	14	22	14	10	2	1	75
PBDF	4	16	28	38	28	16	4	1	135
PCDD	2	10	14	22	14	10	2	1	75
PCDF	4	16	28	38	28	16	4	1	135
PBrCIDD	0	14	84	254	420	452	252	74	1550
PBrCIDF	0	28	168	496	840	880	504	134	3050
Grand Total PXDD/F congeners									5020

Formation

- Thermal
 - *de novo*
 - *formation from precursors*
- Chemical
- Photochemical
- Biological - condensation reactions of naturally occurring bromophenols*



*Haglund P, Malmvarn A, Bergek S, Bignert A, Kautsky L, Nakano T, Wiberg K and Asplund L. (2007).. *Environ Sci Technol.* **41** 3069–3074.

Toxicity of PBDD/Fs and PBrCIDD/F

As for PCDD/Fs

- Lethality
- Wasting
- thymic atrophy
- Teratogenesis
- reproductive effects
- Chloracne
- Immunotoxicity
- enzyme induction
- decrease in T4 and vitamin A
- increased hepatic porphyrins



Toxicity and occurrence of PXBs

Environment International 44 (2012) 118–127



Contents lists available at SciVerse ScienceDirect

Environment International

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/envint



Review

Mixed poly-brominated/chlorinated biphenyls (PXBs): Widespread food and environmental contaminants

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Toxicity of PBDD/Fs and PBrCIDD/F (2)

TOXICOLOGICAL SCIENCES 133(2), 197–208 2013
doi:10.1093/toxsci/kft070
Advance Access publication March 14, 2013

REVIEW

Polybrominated Dibenzo-*p*-Dioxins, Dibenzofurans, and Biphenyls: Inclusion in the Toxicity Equivalency Factor Concept for Dioxin-Like Compounds

Martin van den Berg,^{1,*} Michael S. Denison,[†] Linda S. Birnbaum,[‡] Michael J. DeVito,[‡] Heidelore Fiedler,[§] Jerzy Falandysz,[¶] Martin Rose,^{||} Dieter Schrenk,^{|||} Stephen Safe,^{|||} Chiharu Tohyama,[#] Angelika Tritscher,^{**} Mats Tysklind,^{††} and Richard E. Peterson^{‡‡}

- Use same TEFs as for chlorinated dioxins – interim basis
- Data on exposure is needed



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Environment International

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/envint



Characterisation of chlorinated, brominated and mixed halogenated dioxins, furans and biphenyls as potent and as partial agonists of the Aryl hydrocarbon receptor



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ARTICLE INFO

Article history:

Received 21 August 2014

Received in revised form 28 November 2014

Accepted 5 December 2014

Available online xxxx

Keywords:

AhR

Aryl hydrocarbon receptor

Dioxin

Furan

PCB

TCDD

Risk assessment

CYP1A1

Potency

ABSTRACT

The Aryl hydrocarbon receptor (AhR) binds a variety of chlorinated and brominated dioxins, furans and biphenyls. Mixed halogenated variants have been recently identified in food at significant levels but full characterisation requires potency data in order to gauge their impact on risk assessment. Rat H4IIE and human MCF-7 cells were treated with various mixed halogenated ligands. Antagonist properties were measured by treating cells with various concentrations of TCDD in the presence of EC₂₅ of the putative antagonist. Measurement of CYP1A1 RNA was used to quantify the potency of agonism and antagonism. The PXDDs were found to be slightly less potent than the corresponding fully chlorinated congeners with the exception of 2-B,3,7,8-TricDD which was 2-fold more potent than TCDD. PXDFs and non-ortho-PXBs were found to be more potent than their chlorinated congeners whilst several mono-ortho-substituted PXBs were shown to have partial agonistic properties. REPs were produced for a range of mixed halogenated AhR-activating ligands providing a more accurate estimation of potency for risk assessment. Several environmentally abundant biphenyls were shown to be antagonists and reduce the ability of TCDD to induce CYP1A1. The demonstration of antagonism for AhR ligands represents a challenge for existing REP risk assessment schemes for AhR ligands.

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Toxicity of PXDD/Fs and PXBs

- Ah activity demonstrated
- Broadly similar order of magnitude compared with PCDD/Fs and PCBs
- Some congeners may be more toxic - e.g. tri substituted congeners; some non-2,3,7,8-congeners



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journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/envint



Mixed halogenated dioxins/furans (PXDD/Fs) and biphenyls (PXBs) in food: Occurrence and toxic equivalent exposure using specific relative potencies



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ARTICLE INFO

Article history:

Received 28 April 2014

Accepted 2 July 2014

Available online xxxx

Keywords:

Dioxin-like toxicity

Dietary intake

TEQ

Bromo-chloro

Ah receptor

Congener-selective

ABSTRACT

The occurrence of nineteen mixed halogenated (bromo-chloro) dibenzo-*p*-dioxins, dibenzofurans (PXDD/Fs) and biphenyls (PXBs) in a range of foods ($n > 100$) was investigated. The analytical methodology used dual activated carbon column fractionation with high resolution mass spectrometric measurement (13,500–15,000 res). Occurrence was observed in most commonly consumed foods but the most frequent detections of these environmental contaminants were made in shellfish and offal. The concentrations of the individual compounds were condensed into toxic equivalents (TEQs) using recently reported relative potency values. Although representing only a small subset of the full range of toxic PXDD/Fs and PXBs, the TEQs estimated for these compounds ranged from 0.2% to approximately 15% (depending on the food matrix) of the corresponding TEQ for the fully chlorinated analogues. This finding is of great toxicological importance as it implies that a potentially greater magnitude of TEQ could be associated with the full range of toxic PXDD/Fs and PXBs, thus making a significant contribution to dioxin-like toxicity from the diet, to human exposure.

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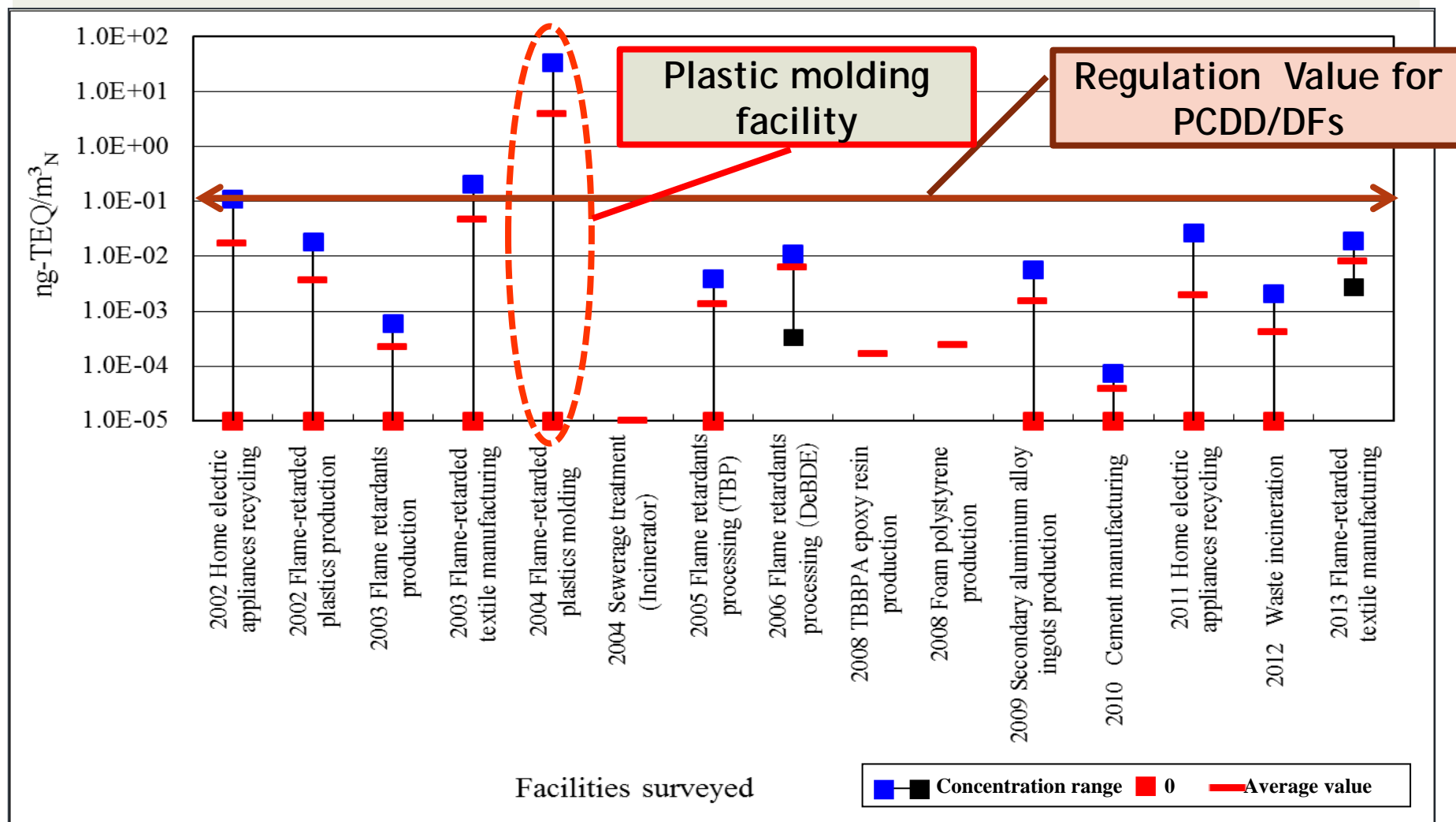
PXDD/Fs and PXBs in food

- These compounds are found in foods!
- Lower levels
- Many more congeners, only very few measured
- Potential for TEQ to be significant if all could be measured and summed

Relationship between BFRs and PBDD/Fs

- Clear linear relation between PBDEs and PBDD/Fs in emission sources from industrial processes such as fabric and furniture manufacture (Shin-ichi Sakai, BFR 2015 April 2015)

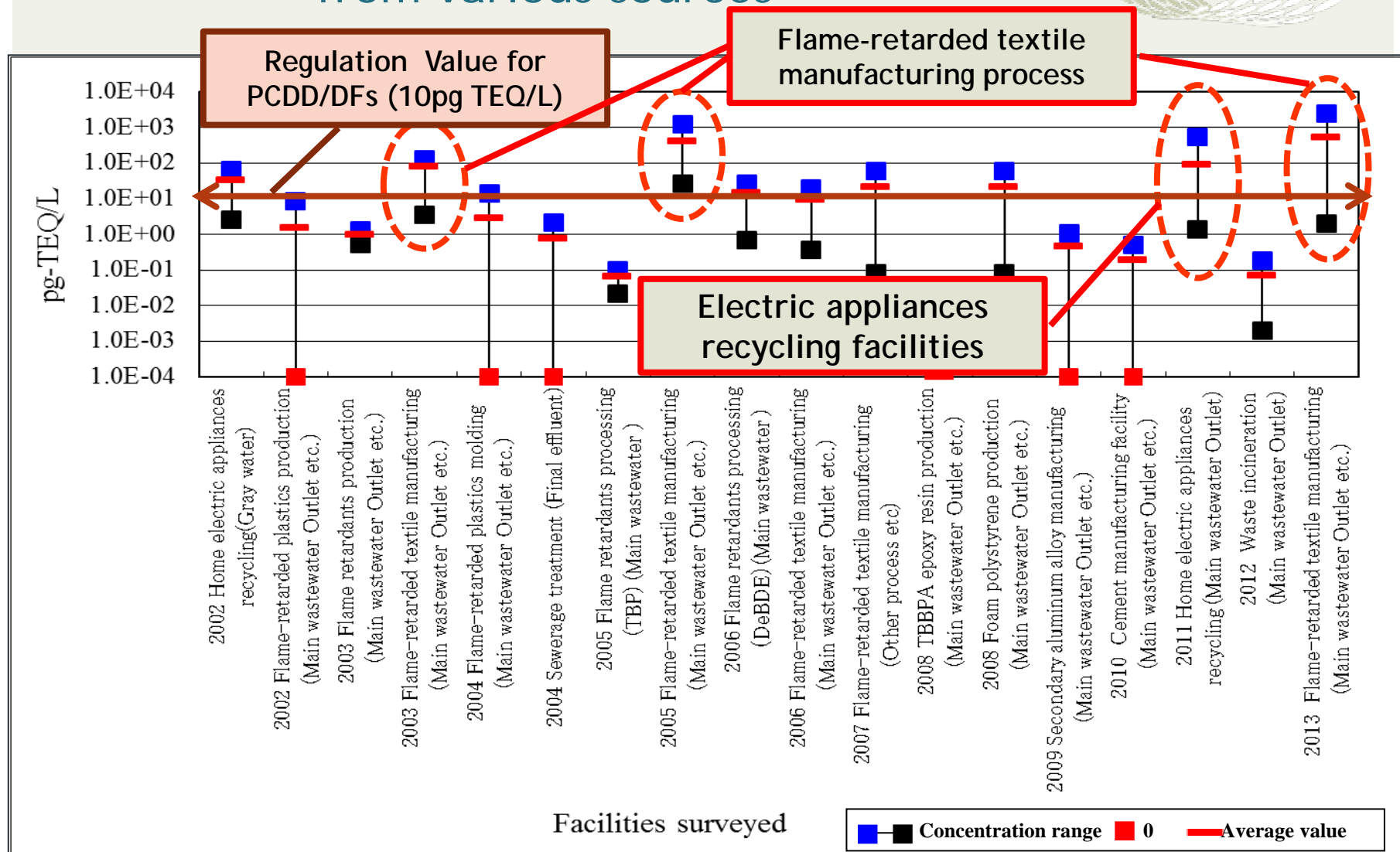
Levels of PBDD/DFs in emission gas from various sources



TEQ estimation approach on a trial basis

TEQs for the PBDD/DF congeners were calculated using WHO-TEFs (1998 or 2006) of their chlorinated counterparts.

Levels of PBDD/DFs in effluent from various sources



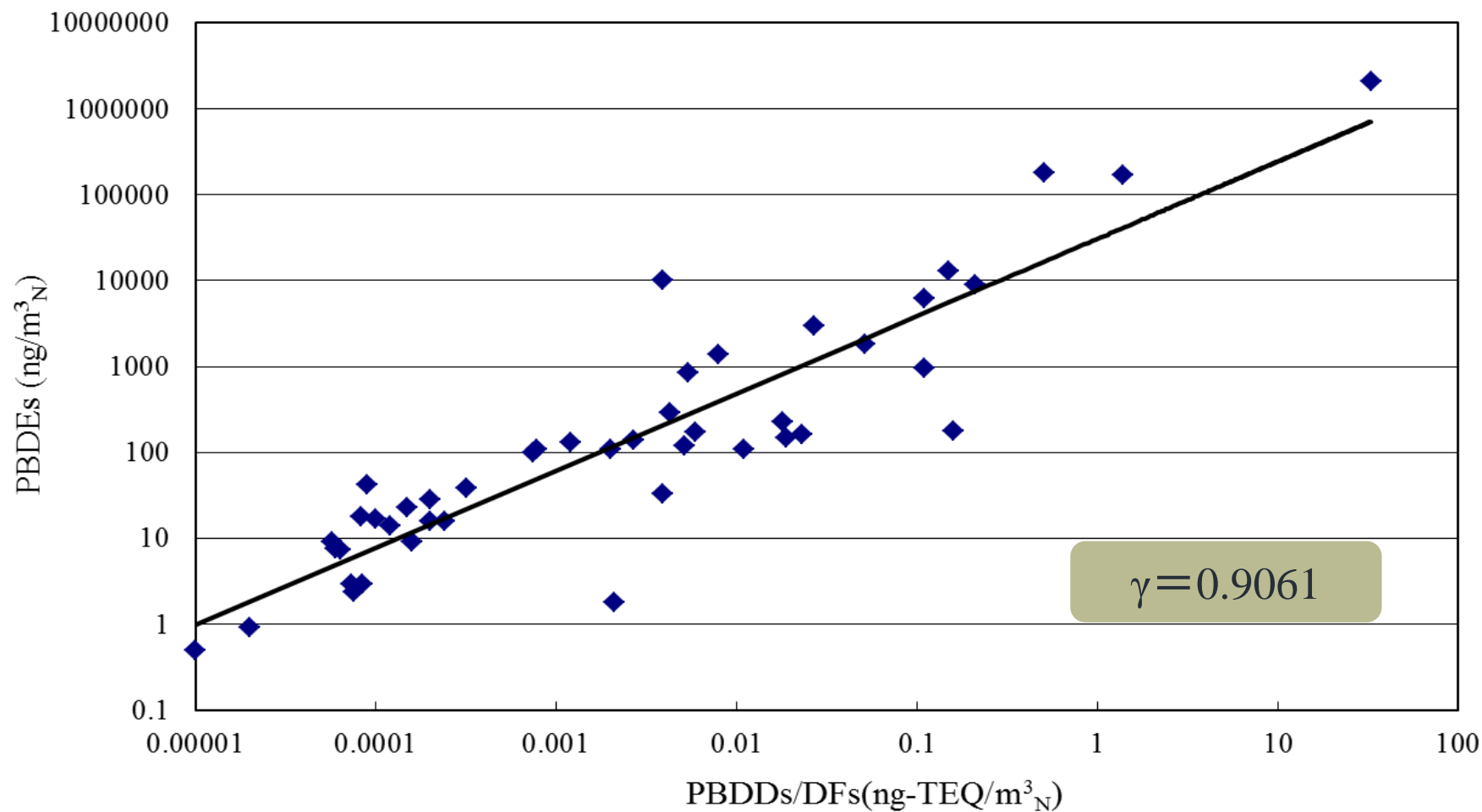
TEQ estimation approach on a trial basis

TEQs for the PBDD/DF congeners were calculated using WHO-TEFs (1998 or 2006) of their chlorinated counterparts.

Correlation between PBDD/DFs(TEQ) and PBDEs

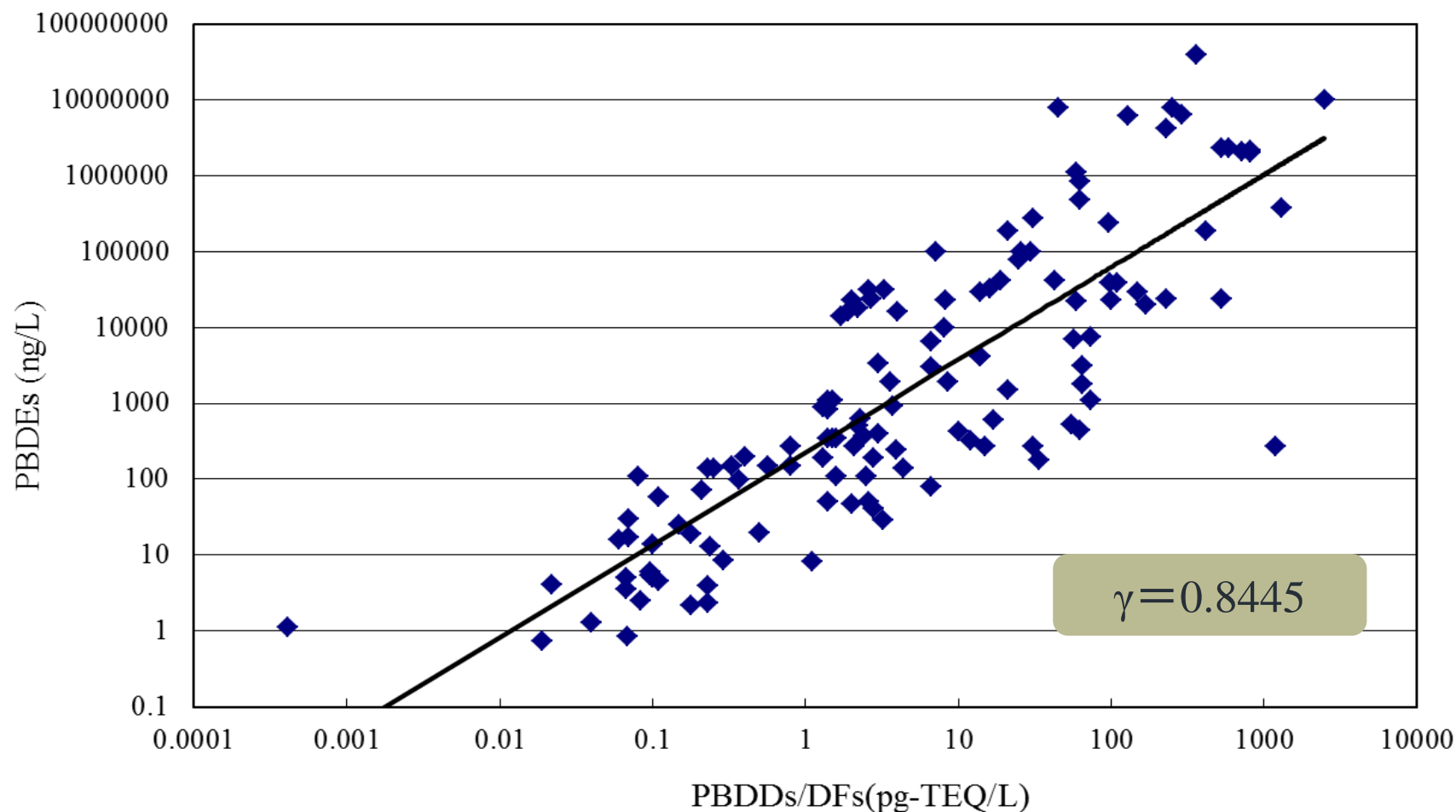


Emission gas



Correlation between PBDD/DFs (TEQ) and PBDEs

Effluent





This research project is funded
by the Food Standards Agency



Contaminants in recycled waste materials used in agriculture: implications for food production



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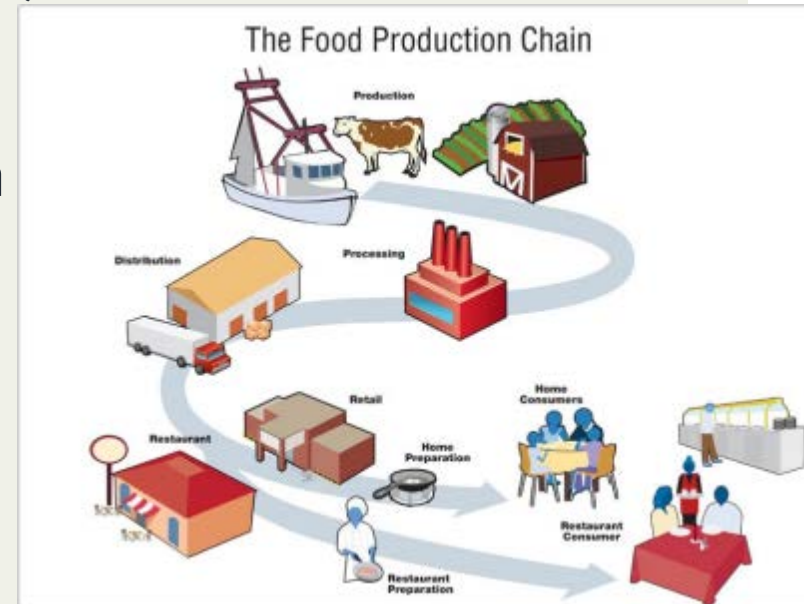
Introduction

- Recycled wastes are used across Europe as animal bedding or soil improvers/fertilisers



Need to confirm safety with respect to food chain

- Priority emerging contaminants need to be considered
 - e.g. PFCs (Transfer to wheat: Wen *et al.* (2014) Environmental Pollution 184, 547-544)
- Transfer pathways to the food chain
 - uptake by crops
 - ingestion of wastes-amended soil and
 - contaminated foliage by grazing livestock
 - Ingestion of recycled animal bedding
- Development of methodology and quality standards to assess waste materials



Recycled Waste - Livestock Bedding Materials



- Recycled waste wood (RWW)
 - Dried paper sludge (DPS)
 - Paper sludge ash (PSA)

Biowastes



- Dewatered, mesophilic anaerobically digested biosolids



- Compost-like-output (CLO) - mechanically separated composted organic fraction of MSW

Combustion Products



- Meat and bone meal ash (MBMA)
- Poultry litter ash (PLA)
- Paper sludge ash (PSA)

Penta- and octa- PBDEs, Deca-BDE and PCNs

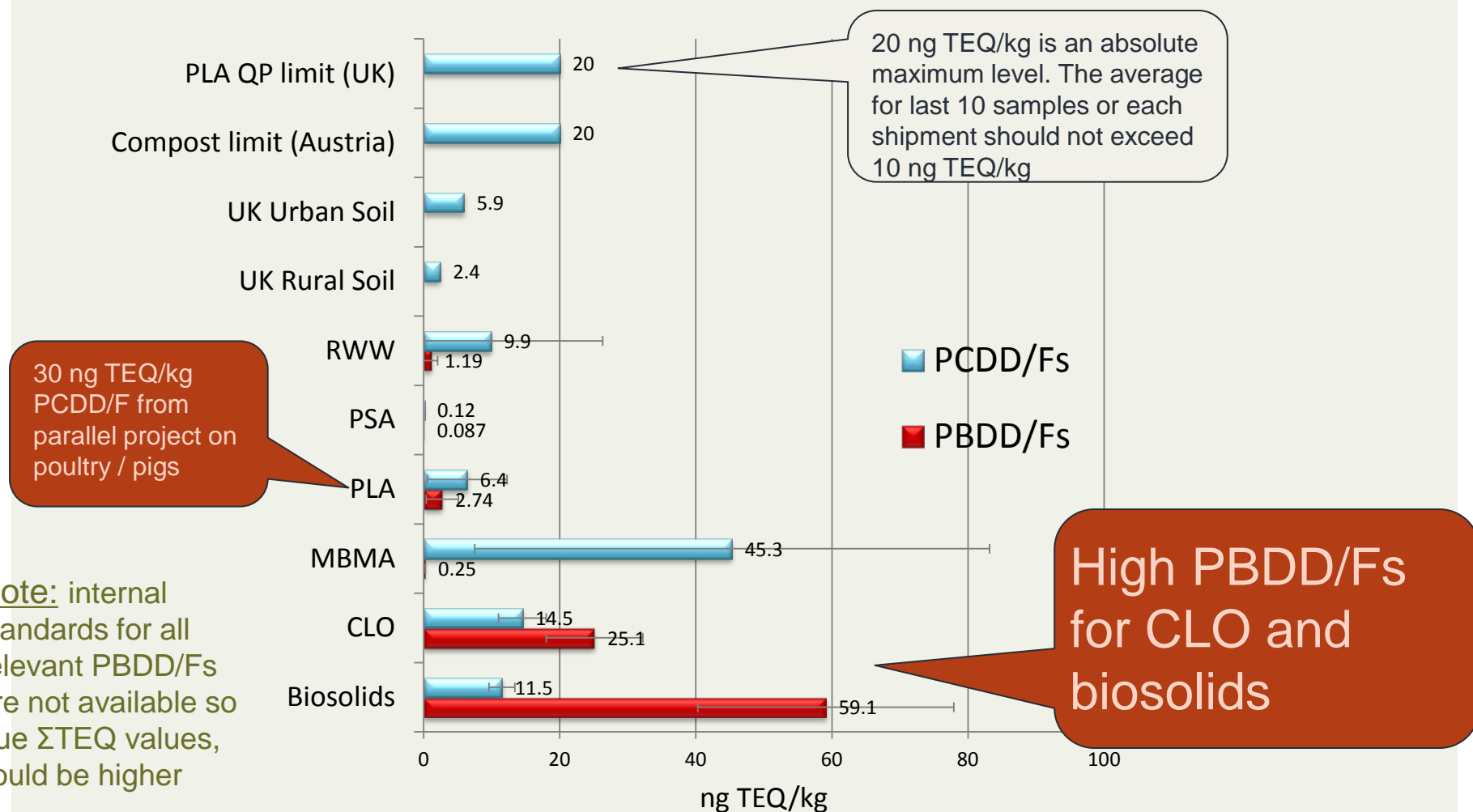
- Expanding use of deca-BDEs in Europe since the prohibition of preparations containing penta and octa-BDE by the European Union in 2003 (EU, 2003)
- PCNs have not been produced in the UK for over 35 years

Contaminant	Biosolids	CLO	MBMA	PLA	PSA	RWW	Literature values (Biosolids)
	(µg/kg DS)						
Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs)	90-103 ^a 77-88 ^b	41-60 ^a 35-56 ^b	0.26-0.28 ^a 0.21-0.22 ^b	0.22-0.33 ^a 0.20-0.26 ^b	0.087 ^a 0.17 ^b	0.52-4.34 ^a 0.45-3.8 ^b	108 ^{bcd}
Deca-BDE 209	4198-6693	1650-1723	0.62-0.70	<0.17-3.0	1.4	11.0-246	13-288 ^a 1030 ^e
Polychlorinated naphthalenes (PCNs)	0.54-0.74 ^f	0.69-1.2	0.045-0.108	0.088-0.061	0.039	0.088-1.2	5-190 ^{erg}

^asum penta- and octa-; ^bsum 28, 47, 99, 153, 154, 183; ^cmedian for 11 WWTP sludges; ^dKnoth *et al.* (2007);

^eClarke and Smith (2011) Environ Int 37, 226-247; ^fsum; ^gSmith (2009) Philos T Royal Soc A 367, 3871-3872

PCDD/Fs and PBDD/Fs

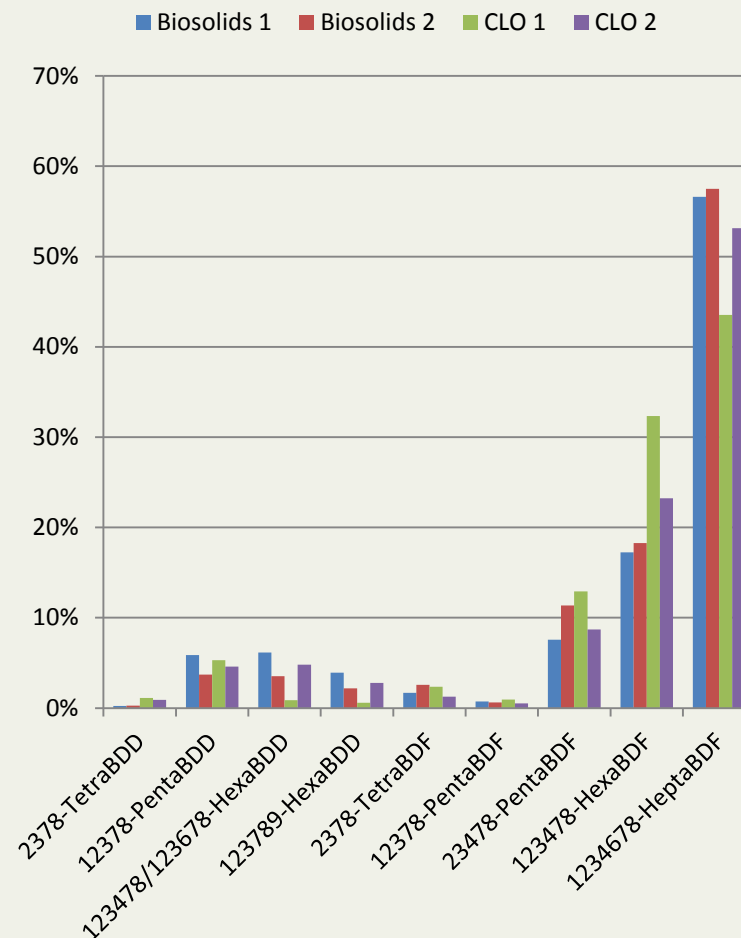
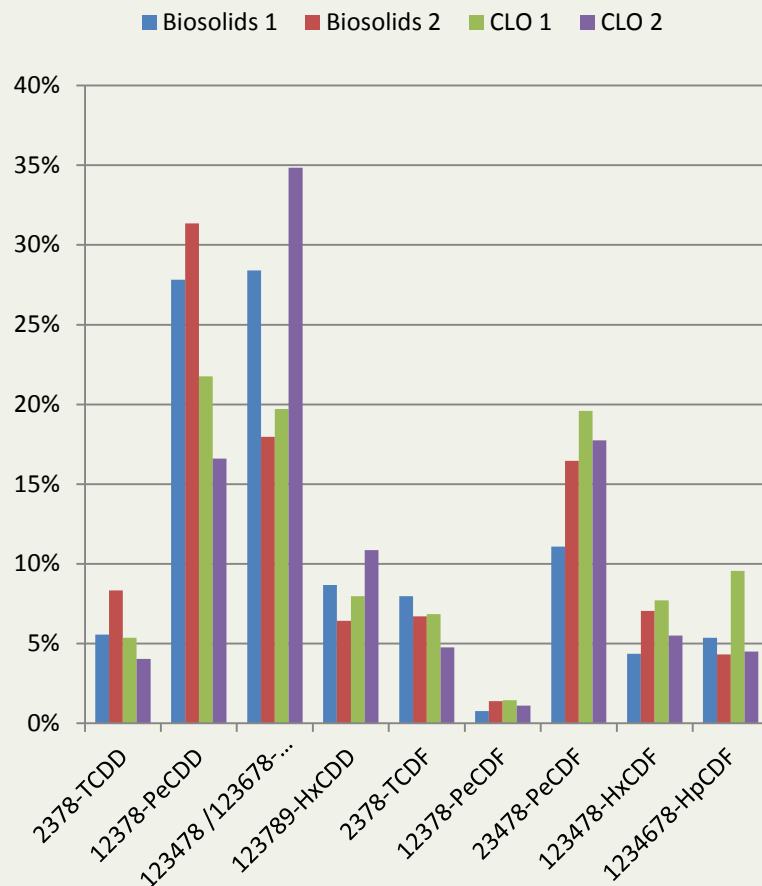




PCDD/F and PBDD/F in biowastes



% total TEQ



Measurement

- Challenging!
- Many congeners
- Few analytical standards
- Even fewer ^{13}C analogues



Seeing the whole picture

Should the TEF / TEQ scheme apply to other Ah agonists we know about and those we don't know about?

For complete picture or a holistic risk assessment....

TEQ = $\Sigma[\text{PCDD}_i \times \text{TEF}_i] + \Sigma[\text{PCDF}_i \times \text{TEF}_i] + \Sigma[\text{PCB}_i \times \text{TEF}_i]$

$+ \Sigma[\text{PBDD}_i \times \text{TEF}_i] + \Sigma[\text{PBDF}_i \times \text{TEF}_i] + \Sigma[\text{PBB}_i \times \text{TEF}_i]$

$+ \Sigma[\text{PXDD}_i \times \text{TEF}_i] + \Sigma[\text{PXDF}_i \times \text{TEF}_i] + \Sigma[\text{PXB}_i \times \text{TEF}_i]$

$+ \Sigma[\text{PCN}_i \times \text{TEF}_i] \dots\dots\dots$



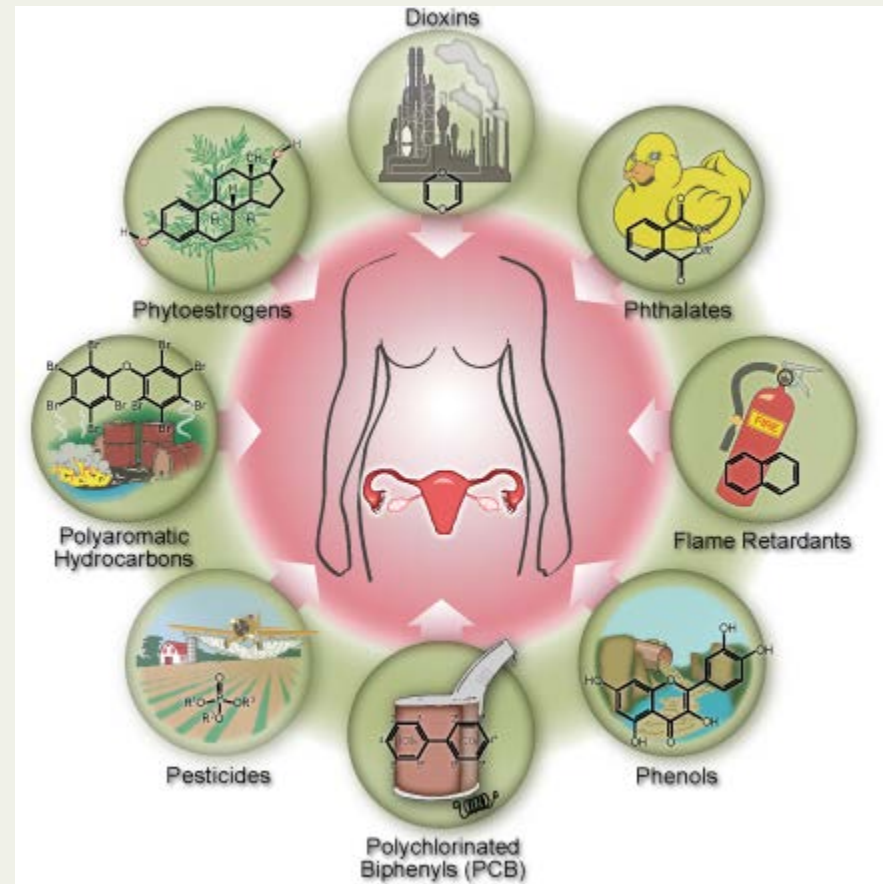
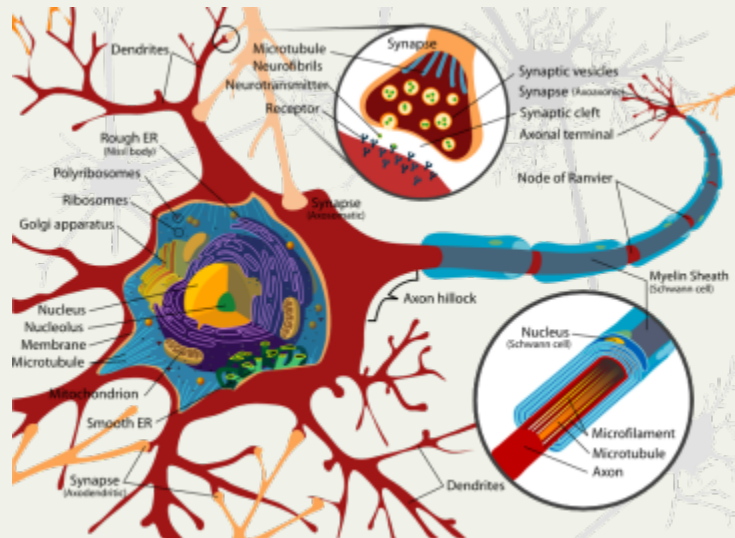
Other aspects to consider for risk assessment

Endocrine activity

- Many of these compounds + many more are endocrine active

Neurotoxicity

Etc.....





The Rumsfeld Theorem

...there are known knowns; there are things we know we know. We also know there are known unknowns; that is to say we know there are some things we do not know. But there are also unknown unknowns -- the ones we don't know we don't know.

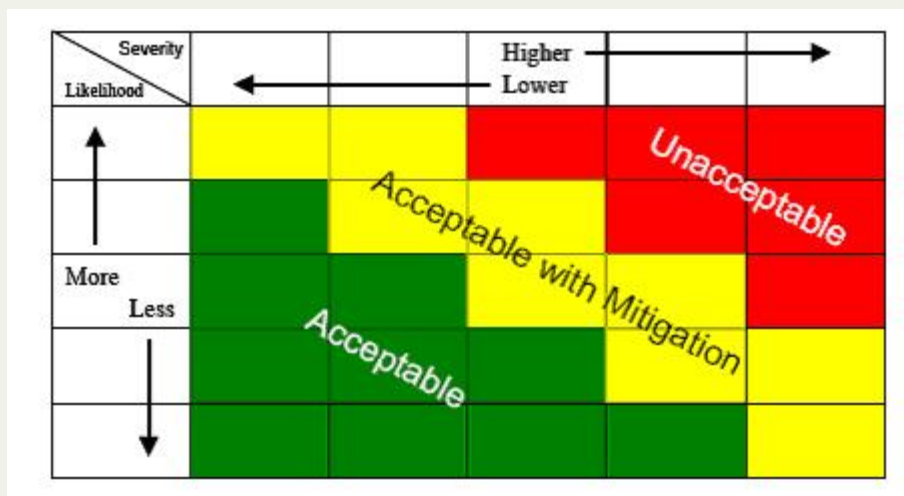
Analytical future

- Need next generation MS
- Need to combine MS with measurement of biological effect e.g. cell based or receptor assays
- Need to be aware of impact of clean-up methods



Risk assessment

- Needs to be holistic
- Dioxins first chemicals to be assessed as mixtures, but still a very simple model
- Need to include all Ah receptor agonists
- Endocrine activity?
- Neurotoxicity?
- Etc?



More information on recycled materials in agriculture



Investigation of the Potential Transfer and Uptake of Contaminants into Food Arising From The Use of Recycled Waste in Agriculture

THE PROJECT

Biosolids and other waste-derived materials in agriculture for decades and the impacts on human emerging chemical contaminants

Welcome Message

This programme of experimental research funded by the Food Standards Agency, under the Food Environmental Contaminants research programme, aims to investigate whether controlled use of biosolids and other waste-derived materials in agriculture leads to the transfer of contaminants into food. The programme will also investigate the uptake of organic contaminants by crops and livestock due to direct contact with recycled waste materials in soil conditions or pasture.


We also monitor the uptake of organic contaminants by crops and livestock grown in soil amended with waste-derived soil conditioners.

What is the Project about

A variety of waste materials are recycled in agriculture with the benefit of reducing pressure on virgin resources. Recycled waste materials, such as untreated waste wood shavings or paper sludge recycling mills, can be effectively used as animal bedding in livestock production.

Find out more -

Who we are




Home About Who we are Contact Us

Home » About

What is the Project About

Study Duration: February 2014 to March 2016
Project Lead: Professor Stephen Smith, Imperial College London
Consortium Members: Imperial Consultants (Lead) University of Reading
The Food and Environment Research Agency (FERA)



Visit the Food Standards Agency (FSA) site to learn more about our funder.

Background

A variety of waste materials are recycled in agriculture with the benefit of reducing pressure on virgin resources. Recycled waste materials, such as untreated waste wood shavings or paper sludge from paper recycling mills, can be effectively used as animal bedding in livestock production. Nutrient-rich waste materials such as sewage sludge (biosolids) or outputs from the combustion of waste biomass (e.g. meat and bone meal ash (MBMA) and poultry litter ash (PLA)) can be applied to land as agricultural fertilisers and soil conditioners in grassland and crop production, closing the nutrient loop and reducing the use of manufactured fertilisers.

Paper sludge ash (PSA) is an effective desiccant in bedding for cattle, and is also

This project aims to generate robust scientific evidence that the following will not compromise food safety:

- rearing dairy cattle on bedding made from recycled waste
- using waste-derived fertilisers or liming agents for grassland or for arable land used for root crops or cereals

The project also aims to identify or validate control measures needed to protect the

<http://www.foodagrirecycledwaste.org/>

Acknowledgement

- All my colleagues in the environmental contaminants team at Fera, especially Alwyn Fernandes
- FSA have funded a significant amount of work done within the team
- EFSA, WHO, UNEP etc for providing drivers



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