# Utsläpp av herbicid från en kemikaliefabrik för produktion av växtgifter.

#### 861121 MARS 1986\_02

Olyckan inträffade på en anlägging för produktion av bekämpningsmedel av olika slag. Efter att en läcka i kylvattensystemet uppstått rann närmare 2 ton herbicid ut i Rhen under sex timmars tid. Läckan identifierats inte i rapporten. Höga halter av herbiciden kunde påvisas i flodvattnet, varför förbud mot att använda flodvattnet som dricksvatten utfärdades. Herbiciden ifråga är lättlöslig i vatten, resistent mot ljusnedbrytning och hydrolys. Den är inte enkelt biologiskt nedbrytbar med en halveringstid på ungefär 25 dagar.

#### Inblandade ämnen och mängder

		CAS Nr.	Mängd
2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (herbicid)		94-75-7	2000 kg
Skador:			
Människor:	Inga.		
Materiella:	Inga.		
Miljö/ekologi:	I floden Rhen uppmättes halter av herbiciden nära 50 gånger större än normalt. Normal nivå ligger under 1 mikrogram per liter. Inga skadliga effekter noterades.		
Infrastruktur:	Ett temporärt förbi utfärdades.	förbid mot att använda flodvattnet som dricksvatten	

#### Erfarenheter redovisade (Ja/Nej): Nej

### **Report Profile**

#### **Identification of Report:**

country: FA ident key: 1986\_002\_01

reported under Seveso I directive as major accident reports: SHORT+FULL

#### Date of Major Occurrence: Time of Major Occurrence

start: 1986-11-21 start:

finish: finish:

#### **Establishment:**

name:

address:

industry: 2004 pesticides, pharmaceuticals, other fine chemicals

Pesticide (2, 4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic Acid Production)

Seveso II status: not applicable: Yes art. 6 (notification): No

art. 7 (MAPP): No

art. 9 (safety report): No

#### Date of Report:

short: full:

**Authority Reporting:** 

name:

address:

#### **Authority Contact:**

rep\_cont\_name:

rep\_cont\_phone:

rep\_cont\_fax:

#### **Additional Comments:**

a) - not applicable -

b) - not applicable -

- c) not applicable -
- d) not applicable -
- e) not applicable -

### **Short Report**

country: FA ident key: 1986\_002\_01

#### Accident Types:

release: Yes explosion: No

water contamination: Yes other: No

fire: No

description:

SYSTEM ORIGINATING AND OPERATING CONDITIONS ... see Appendix Short Report / description of accident types

#### Substance(s) Directly Involved:

toxic: Yes explosive: No

ecotoxic: Yes other: No

flammable: No

#### description:

- 2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic Acid [2,4-D] (C.A.S. CODE: 94-75-7): amount involved = 2,000 Kg.... see Appendix

Short Report / description of substances involved

#### **Immediate Sources of Accident:**

storage: No transfer: No

process: Yes other: No

description:

The accident occurred during normal operation of the water cooling system of a pesticide industry for the

production of 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (a herbicide).

#### **Suspected Causes:**

plant or equipment: Yes environmental: No

human: No other: Yes

description:

CAUSES:... see Appendix Short Report / description of suspected causes

#### **Immediate Effects:**

material loss: No

human deaths: No

human injuries: No community disruption: Yes

other: No

ecological harm: Yes

national heritage loss: No

description:

ECOLOGICAL HARM .... see Appendix Short Report / description of immediate effects

#### **Emergency Measures taken:**

on-site systems: No decontamination: Yes

external services: Yes restoration: No

sheltering: No other: No

evacuation: No

description:

EXTERNAL TO THE ESTABLISHMENT .... see Appendix Short Report / description of emergency measures taken

#### **Immediate Lessons Learned:**

prevention: No other: No

mitigation: No

description:

- not applicable -

### **A Occurrence Full Report**

country: FA ident key: 1986\_002\_01

#### 1 Type of Accident

**remarks:** Following a leak in the cooling water system of the production plant, approximately 2 tonnes of the herbicide 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (2,4-D) entered the Rhine river (code 1103) over a period of six hours via a cooling water outlet. ... see Appendix Full Report A / type of accident

#### 2 Dangerous Substances

remarks: The total establishment and the potential directly involved inventories of 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (2,4-D) refer to the amount released into the Rhine river. 2,4-D is readily soluble in water and resistant to photo degradation and hy... see Appendix Full Report A / dangerous substances **3 Source of Accident**

illustration: - not applicable -

remarks: The accident occurred during normal operation of the water cooling system of

a pesticide industry for the production of 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid

(codes 3102 and 2004). The component involved was a piping of the water

cooling system (c... see Appendix Full Report A / source of accident -

remarks

#### **4 Meteorological Conditions**

precipitation none: fog: rain: hail: snow:

No No No No

wind speed (m/s):

direction (from):

stability (Pasquill):

ambient temperature (∞C):

remarks: - not applicable -

#### 5 Causes of Major Occurrence

#### main causes

technical / physical 5102 operation: component/machinery failure/malfunction

5501 other: not identified

- not applicable -

- not applicable -

- not applicable -

human / organizational - not applicable -

- not applicable -
- not applicable -
- not applicable -
- not applicable -

remarks: The release of the herbicide to the Rhine river was due to a leak (code 5102) in the

cooling water system but when the Original Report was prepared the causes of that leakage

were not fully identified (code 5501).

#### 6 Discussion about the Occurrence

- not applicable -

### Type of Accident country: FA ident key: 1986\_002\_01

#### event:

major occurrence 1103 release: fluid release to water

initiating event 1103 release: fluid release to water

associated event - not applicable -

#### **Dangerous substances**

country: FA ident key: 1986\_002\_01

#### a) total establishment inventory

CAS number: 94-75-7 identity: 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic Acid

name from Seveso I Directive: - not applicable -

name from Seveso II Directive: - not applicable -

category from Seveso II: - not applicable -

other hazards (1): - not applicable other hazards (2): - not applicable maximum quantity (tonnes): 2 use of substance as: NORMAL FINISHED PRODUCT b) substance belongs to relevant inventory directly involved: Yes actual quantity: 2 potential quantity: 2 c) substance belongs to relevant inventory indirectly involved: No actual quantity: -1 indir\_pot\_quant: -1 Source of Accident - Situation country: FA ident key: 1986 002 01 situation industry inititating event 2004 pesticides, pharmaceuticals, other fine chemicals associated event - not applicable activity/unit major occurrence 3102 process: chemical continuous reaction inititating event 3102 process: chemical continuous reaction associated event - not applicable component major occurrence 4011 general pipework/flanges inititating event 4011 general pipework/flanges associated event - not applicable -

### **B** Consequences Full Report

country: FA ident key: 1986\_002\_01

1 Area concerned

affected

extent of effects installation: Yes

establishment: Yes

off-site; local: Yes

off-site; regional: No

off-site; transboundary: No

illustration of effects - not applicable -

remarks In the Rhine river a substantial increase in the concentration was measured (val... see Appendix

Full Report B / area concerned - remarks

#### 2 People

establishment popul. emergency personnel off-site population

total at risk

immediate fatalities

#### subsequent fatalities

- hospitalizing injuries
- other serious injuries

health monitoring

remarks No people were injured during the accident.

#### **3 Ecological Harm**

pollution/contamination/damage of:

- residential area (covered by toxic cloud) Suspected
- common wild flora/fauna (death or elimination) Suspected
- rare or protected flora/fauna (death or elimination) Suspected
- water catchment areas and supplies for consumption or recreation not applicable
- land (with known potential for long term ecological harm or Suspected
- preventing human access or activities)
- marine or fresh water habitat Suspected
- areas of high conservation value or given special protection Suspected
- remarks In the Rhine river a substantial increase in the concentration was measured (val... see Appendix
- Full Report B / ecological harm

#### **4 National Heritage Loss**

effects on:

- historical sites not applicable historic monuments not applicable
- historic buildings not applicable art treasures not applicable

remarks No data available.

#### **5** Material Loss

establishment losses off site losses

costs (direct costs to operator) (social costs)

in ECU ECU

- material losses
- response, clean up, restoration

remarks No material losses occurred.

#### 6 Disruption of Community Life

#### establishment/plant evacuated disabled/unoccupiable destroyed

- nearby residences/hotels No No No

- nearby factories/offices/small shops No No No

- schools, hospitals, institutions No No No
- other places of public assembly No No No

#### interruption of utilities etc. no / yes duration

- gas No
- electricity No
- water No

- sewage treatment works No
- telecommunications No
- main roads No
- railways No
- waterways No
- air transport No

significant public concern none local level national level

- off site populations No Yes No
- media interest No No No
- political interest No No No

remarks As a precaution, it was temporarily forbidden to draw drinking water from this r... see Appendix

#### 7 Discussion of Consequences

- not applicable -

#### **Ecological Components involved**

country: FA ident key: 1986\_002\_01

type: 6204 freshwater: river

threatened: not applicable affected: not applicable

## **C** Response Full Report

country: FA ident key: 1986\_002\_01

#### **1 Emergency Measures**

taken - on site - not applicable - - not applicable -

- not applicable - not applicable -
- not applicable - not applicable -
- off site not applicable - not applicable -
- not applicable - not applicable -
- not applicable - not applicable -

still - on site - not applicable - - not applicable -

#### required

- not applicable - - not applicable -

- not applicable - not applicable -
- off site not applicable - not applicable -

- not applicable - - not applicable -

- not applicable - - not applicable -

#### continuing contamination or danger

-on site not applicable

-off site not applicable

remarks - not applicable -

#### 2 Seveso II Duties

pre-accident evaluation

Article item not due yet not done done/submitted evaluated

6 notification No No No No

- 7 policy (MAPP) No No No No
- 9 safety report No No No No
- 9, 10, 11 update No No No No
- 11 internal plan No No No No
- 11 external plan No No No No
- 13 informing public No No No No
- 9, 12 siting policy No No No No
- post-accident evaluation
- Seveso II duty was actual were actual compared with actual
- contingency consequences consequences, the
- addressed? addressed? predicted extent was?
- Article item
- 7 policy (MAPP) not applicable not applicable not applicable
- 9 current safety report not applicable not applicable not applicable
- 11 internal plan not applicable not applicable not applicable
- 11 external plan not applicable not applicable not applicable
- 13 informing public not applicable not applicable not applicable
- 9, 12 siting policy not applicable not applicable not applicable
- evaluation of safety organisation
- organisational element element existed did element relate to actual circumstances of
- yes / no no / partly / yes adequate?
- written policy objectives No
- specified management No

structure

- specified responsibilities No
- specified working procedures No
- specified procedures for No
- assessment/auditing of
- management system
- specified procedures for No
- review and update of
- management policy
- specified general training No
- procedures
- specified emergency No

#### training procedures

evaluation of ecological impact control

organisational element element existed did element relate to actual circumstances of

yes / no no / partly / yes adequate?

- ecological status review No

before incident

- potential ecological No

consequences assessment

- ecological impact review No

after incident

- ecological restoration No

procedures

- subsequent review of No

restoration success

remarks - not applicable -

#### **3 Official Action Taken**

legal action

- not applicable -

#### other official action

- not applicable -

#### **4 Lessons Learned**

measures to prevent recurrence

- not applicable -

measures to mitigate consequences:

- not applicable -

useful references:

- not applicable -

#### **5** Discussion about Response

- not applicable -

### Appendices for the FA / 1986\_002\_01 report

#### Appendix Short Report / description of accident types:

SYSTEM ORIGINATING AND OPERATING CONDITIONS

Cooling water system.

#### ACCIDENT CASE HISTORY DESCRIPTION:

Following a leak in the cooling water system of the production plant, approximately 2 tonnes of the herbicide 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (2,4-D) entered the Rhine river over a period of six hours via a cooling water outlet. In the Rhine river a substantial increase in the concentration was measured (values up to 46 micrograms/litre against the normal level of below 1 micrograms/litre). No acute harmful effects on living organisms were observed. As a precaution, it was temporarily forbidden to draw drinking water from this river.

#### Appendix Short Report / description of substances involved:

- 2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic Acid [2,4-D] (C.A.S. CODE: 94-75-7): amount involved = 2,000 Kg.

2,4-D is readily soluble in water and resistant to photo degradation and hydrolysis. It is not readily biodegradable (half life about 25 days). Tendency to accumulation is slight. 2,4-D is moderately toxic to Daphnia.

#### Appendix Short Report / description of suspected causes:

#### CAUSES:

The release of the herbicide to the Rhine river was due to a leak in the cooling water system but when the Original Report was prepared the causes of that leakage were not fully identified.

#### Appendix Short Report / description of immediate effects:

#### ECOLOGICAL HARM:

In the Rhine river a substantial increase in the concentration was measured (values up to 46 micrograms/litre against the normal level of below 1 micrograms/litre). No acute harmful effects on living organisms were observed.

#### COMMUNITY DISRUPTION:

As a precaution, it was temporarily forbidden to draw drinking water from this river.

#### Appendix Short Report / description of emergency measures taken:

#### EXTERNAL TO THE ESTABLISHMENT:

The international Warning and Alarm Plan for the Rhine was activated on November 21, 1986, by the government of the Land of Rhineland-Palatinate.

#### DECONTAMINATION:

As a precaution, it was temporarily forbidden to draw drinking water from this river.

#### Appendix Full Report A / type of accident:

Following a leak in the cooling water system of the production plant, approximately 2 tonnes of the herbicide 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (2,4-D) entered the Rhine river (code 1103) over a period of six hours via a cooling water outlet. In the Rhine river a substantial increase in the concentration was measured (values up to 46 micrograms/litre against the normal level of below 1 micrograms/litre). No acute harmful effects on living organisms were observed.

#### Appendix Full Report A / dangerous substances:

The total establishment and the potential directly involved inventories of 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (2,4-D) refer to the amount released into the Rhine river. 2,4-D is readily soluble in water and resistant to photo degradation and hydrolysis. It is not readily biodegradable (half life about 25 days). Tendency to accumulation is slight. 2,4-D is moderately toxic to Daphnia.

#### Appendix Full Report A / source of accident - remarks:

The accident occurred during normal operation of the water cooling system of a pesticide industry for the production of 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (codes 3102 and 2004). The component involved was a piping of the water cooling system (code 4011). From the Original Report it is not fully clear if was chemical continuous reaction or not.

#### Appendix Full Report B / area concerned - remarks:

In the Rhine river a substantial increase in the concentration was measured (values up to 46 micrograms/litre against the normal level of below 1 micrograms/litre) but no acute harmful effects on living organisms were observed. In any case, as a precaution, it was temporarily forbidden to draw drinking water from this river.

#### Appendix Full Report B / ecological harm:

In the Rhine river a substantial increase in the concentration was measured (values up to 46 micrograms/litre against the normal level of below 1 micrograms/litre) but no acute harmful effects on living organisms were observed.

#### Appendix Full Report B / disruption of community life:

As a precaution, it was temporarily forbidden to draw drinking water from this river.