

From

Imperial Chemical Industries Limited
Central Toxicology Laboratory

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To

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Dr G E Davies)
Dr J T Nicholls) Pharmaceuticals
Dr G Samuels)

Copies to

Your ref

Our ref

Tel ext

Date

MSR:SDL




22 Jan 76

Dear

I have been asked to set up a working party to examine the feasibility of adding an emetic to the formulation of paraquat in an attempt to make the paraquat concentrate "safer".

Paraquat poisoning is causing the Company considerable concern, particularly since the Environmental Protection Agency in the USA is currently questioning the safety of the product.

The major problem with paraquat that we are presently faced with is suicide. Would-be suicides are consuming largish quantities (50-200 ml) which usually result in death in 1-3 days. Thus if an agent which caused emesis within an hour could be added to the formulation, it might be possible to prevent the absorption of a lethal quantity of paraquat.

I would be most grateful if you could attend a meeting to discuss what type of programme would be required to evaluate the viability of this approach. The initial meeting will be held at CTL for $\frac{1}{2}$ day on Thursday, 29 January at 9.30 am in Dr K Fletcher's office (Room G 9). Lunch has been arranged in the CTL Dining Room, please would you let Mrs Leadbetter (Ext ) know whether this is convenient.

Yours sincerely

M. S. Rose

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