

U. S. Public Health Service

*Typhus*  
U.S. Communicable Disease Center

Headquarters Office, 605 Volunteer Building, Atlanta 3, Georgia

Typhus Control Memorandum No. 22

July 10, 1946

To : The District Directors, State Health Officers and Others Concerned  
Attn : Typhus Control  
From : Engineering Division  
Subject: Residual Dusting in Meat Processing Plants.

1. The following information relative to DDT dusting for typhus control in meat packing or processing plants has been obtained from officials in the Production and Marketing Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture by representatives of USPHS in Washington:
  - a. The Meat Inspection Division has agreed to authorize the use of DDT when properly applied for rodent ectoparasite control in those portions of meat packing plants where food processing is not actually taking place and where meat is not exposed. Due to lack of information concerning the effects of DDT over a long period of time when ingested, its use is not approved in areas where the meat is actually being processed. It can be used when properly supervised in other portions of the plant such as hide cellars; warehouses, where meat is completely covered; loading docks; offices; garages; livestock pens; rendering plants; fertilizer plants; boiler rooms; and other similar areas.
  - b. Meat Inspectors in certain areas may require the submission of a sample of DDT dust to the Meat Inspection Division Laboratory for an analysis. If such sample is required it is requested that the area or project supervisor comply with same in accordance with the Meat Inspector's instructions.
2. Attached are copies of Meat Inspection Memorandum No. 52, November 9, 1944, and Supplement No. 1, May 9, 1946, which govern the practices of eradication of vermin in meat packing plant. In connection with rat eradication in Government inspected plants, it should be noted that the only rat poisons allowed are barium carbonate and red squill except as may be specially permitted by the meat inspection laboratory.
3. Meat plants should not be passed up in the regular dusting operations but should be treated in accordance with paragraph 1 a. above. Where permission to do this is not secured, it is requested that the matter be referred to Headquarters for appropriate action.

John S. Wiley  
Sr. Asst. San. Engineer  
i/c Typhus Control Section

Attachments