recover purified gel zones

With conventional gel electrophoresis apparatus, recovery of undiluted sample components or quantitation of them without denaturation is difficult or impossible. By combining the separating power of sieving gels with the zone storage and retrieval convenience of density gradients, the ISCO

ELECTROSTAC^{T.M.} separator greatly improves zone recovery. **TYPICAL SCAN OF GEL**

ZONES COLLECTED IN DENSITY GRADIENT

sample: 7.5 micrograms Yeast-RNA 5s fraction

4s fraction

The ELECTROSTAC separator positions a polyacrylamide gel above a sucrose density gradient column. Separated zones migrate from the lower surface of the gel downward into the density gradient, maintaining their isolation and relative positions. The zone is then recovered by removing the ELECTROSTAC separator and pumping the gradient upward through a UV ab-

sorbance monitor, and then to a fraction collector. If scanning shows separation to be incomplete, the gel can be replaced for further electrophoresis before fractionation. The sucrose can be dialyzed out to leave a purified fraction. The ELECTROSTAC separator permits a multiple approach to separation by allowing the use of wide ranges of gel characteristics and buffers, and has been demonstrated to be particularly well adapted to the preparation of gel-separable fractions of nucleic acids. For complete details send for literature and our current catalog. pat. pend.



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the web, since many herbivores have specific food requirements. Higher organisms therefore need not be directly sensitive to these substances to be affected.

The tight regulation that Adler claims for PCB distribution has not been manifested by any decline in PCB concentrations in environmental samples. Furthermore, we are aware of no law that permits regulation of their escape into the environment. Pesticides, at least, can be regulated under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act, but PCB's are not pesticides. Who, then, is tightly regulating PCB's?

We believe that the environmental impact of a chemical should be studied before it is released into the environment; DDT and the PCB's were released first and studied later. Assurances of safety based on little or no evidence, such as those by Adler, are no longer sufficient for most environmental scientists. Too often these assurances have proven misleading and naive.

JERRY L. MOSSER
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TZU-CHIU TENG
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 C. F. Wurster, ibid. 159, 1474 (1968).

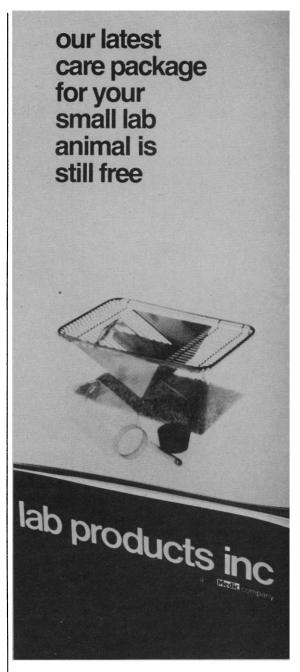
Canceled Invitation

I was invited to attend the 2nd International Ocean Development Conference and Exhibition, which will be held in Tokyo, Japan, from 4 through 9 October 1972. My paper "Strontium distribution in sea waters from the South China Sea" was accepted for presentation.

However, because several oceanographers from Communist China were later invited to participate, my invitation was canceled by the chairman of the organizing committee, Seiichi Tagawa. Apparently, politics is governing science at the conference, which is not only regrettable, but also harmful to the world's scentific community.

Ju-chin Chen

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