APPLIED ORGANOMETALLIC CHEMISTRY
Appl. Organometal. Chem. 2001; **15**: 931

Book review

Reviews of environmental contamination and toxicology, volume 166
G. W. Ware (ed.)
Springer-Verlag, New York, 2000
xi + 179 pages
ISBN 0-12-031142-9

Another volume in this well-established series comprehensively reviews four very separate topics. A chapter by James Meador on 'Predicting the Fate and Effects of Tributyltin in Marine Systems' will be of most interest to readers of *Applied Organometallic Chemistry*. However, the other three chapters will also appeal to anyone with an interest in environmental issues.

Meador, who is a well-respected and established scientist working in this area, sets out to evaluate the possibility that tributyltin (TBT) behaves in a predictable manner in marine and estuarine systems when assessed using the equilibrium partitioning (EqP) method, toxicokinetic modelling, and the critical body residue (CBR) approach. The three methods are described and reviewed in detail, along with a comprehensive overview of the sediment–water–tissue partitioning data for TBT. The chapter is split into convenient sections covering all aspects of the fate and effects of TBT, and it can be considered a reliable source of reference data. Any reader unfamiliar with these methods will find the clarity with which they are applied very useful. The chapter concludes that TBT does behave in a predictable manner when assessed using some of the assumptions and tenets of these methods. Overall, this is a convenient source of TBT fate and effects data combined with a useful insight into the methods available to predict the partitioning and toxic effects of a marine contaminant.

The remaining three chapters cover 'The Fate and Effects of Diazinon', 'Trace Elemental Contamination in Antarctic Ecosystems', and 'Trace Metals in Antarctica Related to Climate Change and Increasing Human Impact'. Daniel Larkin and Ronald Tjeerdema meticulously review the fate and effects of the organophosphorus insecticide and nematicide, diazinon. All aspects of the compound's chemistry, environmental occurrence and fate, and toxicology are covered in this very informative review. Once again, this is a review that can be considered a reliable source of reference data. Juan Sanchez-Hernandez provides data on trace metal distribution to support environmental impact assessment (EIA) procedures (Chapter 3), and Roberto Bargagli provides a database on the environmental distribution of trace metals in Antarctica (Chapter 4). Both chapters review similar topics and provide extensive data on natural and anthropogenic sources of trace metals and their impact on Antarctica.

As expected from previous volumes of this series, *Reviews of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology* continues to provide succinct reviews on topical subjects. To conclude, the reader with an interest in the impact of xenobiotics on our environment will find much of interest.

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[DOI: aoc.228]