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Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics Discussions



# *Interactive comment on* "Changing sources and environmental factors reduce the rates of decline of organochlorine pesticides in the Arctic Atmosphere" *by* S. Becker et al.

**S. Becker et al.**

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Thank you for your comments. Page 524: The increase in DDTs is not attributed to forest fires, rather we raise the possibility that this could be one reason for the increase seen at this time. This theory is supported by evidence seen by Eckhardt et al. (2007). We haven't got a full explanation fro the increase in op-DDE, although we do suggest that perhaps changes in source types and strengths, together with changing conditions in the Arctic, may be influencing levels in air.

Page 525: The higher winter values of pp-DDE may be attributal to 'old' DDT (weathered signal from DDT) as well as 'new' DDT (use of dicofol and breakdown of pp-DDT and pp-Cl-DDT. In this paper we do not describe the source types as being one or the



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other as inferred here.

Page 519: Other sources are mentioned in sections 1.3 and 3.3 of the paper. As stated in the paper, it is not thought that the use of chemicals containing HCB as an impurity, or the production of HCB as an unwanted by-product from other industrial activities, would be sufficient to show the rate of increase seen towards the end of the time series and would not effect the global balance of HCB.

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Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 9, 515, 2009.