

**Format for submitting pursuant to Article 8 of the Stockholm Convention the information specified in Annex E of the Convention**

<b>Introductory information</b>	
<b>Name of the submitting Party/observer</b>	Switzerland
<b>Contact details (name, telephone, e-mail) of the submitting Party/observer</b>	Federal Office for the Environment Substances, Soil and Biotechnology Division Contact: Bettina Hitzfeld / Georg Karlaganis <a href="mailto:bettina.hitzfeld@bafu.admin.ch">bettina.hitzfeld@bafu.admin.ch</a> / <a href="mailto:georg.karlaganis@bafu.admin.ch">georg.karlaganis@bafu.admin.ch</a> +41 31 32 31768
<b>Chemical name (as used by the POPS Review Committee (POPRC))</b>	Beta hexachlorocyclohexane
<b>Date of submission</b>	7 February 2007

<b>(a) Sources, including as appropriate (provide summary information and relevant references)</b>	
<b>(i) Production data:</b>	No production
Quantity	
Location	
Other	
<b>(ii) Uses</b>	The only allowed use of any hexachlorocyclohexane isomer is gamma hexachlorocyclohexane (lindane) for medicinal purpose (see (f)).
<b>(iii) Releases:</b>	No known releases
Discharges	
Losses	
Emissions	
Other	

<b>(b) Hazard assessment for endpoints of concern, including consideration of toxicological interactions involving multiple chemicals (provide summary information and relevant references)</b>

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<b>(c) Environmental fate (provide summary information and relevant references)</b>	
<b>Chemical/physical properties</b>	
<b>Persistence</b>	
<b>How are chemical/physical properties and persistence linked to environmental transport, transfer within and between environmental compartments, degradation and transformation to other chemicals?</b>	
<b>Bio-concentration or bio-accumulation factor, based on measured values (unless monitoring data are judged to meet this need)</b>	
<b>(d) Monitoring data (provide summary information and relevant references)</b>	

**Passive biomonitoring using lichen (*Parmelia sulcata*) in Switzerland**

See also file: *HCHs\_Lichen study 2002 (map, graphical representation of values)*

$\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$  dry substance (mean  $\pm$  SD)

Location	$\beta$ -HCH
Zurich (city)	0.4 $\pm$ 0.2
Lucerne (city)	0.7
Lugano (city)	2.0 $\pm$ 0.8
St. Gallen (city)	2.1 $\pm$ 1.8
Duebendorf (urban agglomeration)	2.7 $\pm$ 0.7
Basel (urban agglomeration)	4.7 $\pm$ 3.7
Wallisellen (urban agglomeration)	2.3
Wil (small town)	0.6 $\pm$ 0.3
Rorschach (small town)	7.2 $\pm$ 4.9
Gossau (small town)	0.2 $\pm$ 0.0
Thörishaus (industry)	15.1 $\pm$ 22.7
Berne (industry)	1.0 $\pm$ 0.2
Zurich-North (industry)	0.2 $\pm$ 0.0
Erstfeld (traffic)	0.4
Piotta (traffic)	1.4 $\pm$ 0.9
Schoenbuehl-Grauholz (traffic)	3.5
Haerkingen (traffic)	1.9 $\pm$ 1.1
Haerkingen (away from traffic)	0.5 $\pm$ 0.4
Thoerishaus-West (traffic)	3.3 $\pm$ 4.6
Taenikon (rural)	1.2 $\pm$ 0.9
Payerne (rural)	0.6
Hemmental (rural)	7.0 $\pm$ 1.0
Forst-Neuenegg (background)	2.7 $\pm$ 2.3
Hagen-Randen (background)	2.4 $\pm$ 2.9
Davos (alpine background)	0.3

Reference: R. Herzig & C. Bieri: Persistente organische Luftschadstoffe (POPs) in der Schweiz. Umwelt-Materialien Nr. 146 Luft (2002). Publ.: Swiss Agency for the Environment, Forests and Landscape (now Federal Office for the Environment). German, English summary.

[http://www.bafu.admin.ch/publikationen/index.html?action=show\\_publ&lang=D&id\\_thema=18&series=UM&nr\\_publ=146](http://www.bafu.admin.ch/publikationen/index.html?action=show_publ&lang=D&id_thema=18&series=UM&nr_publ=146)

**(e) Exposure in local areas (provide summary information and relevant references)**

- general

- as a result of long-range environmental transport  
- information regarding bio-availability

**(f) National and international risk evaluations, assessments or profiles and labelling information and hazard classifications, as available (provide summary information and relevant references)****Beta hexachlorocyclohexane is prohibited in Switzerland**

See also: <http://www.bafu.admin.ch/chemikalien/01410/01411/index.html?lang=en>

The following is an excerpt from the:

**Ordinance on Risk Reduction related to the use of certain particularly dangerous substances, preparations and articles** (Ordinance on Risk Reduction related to Chemical Products (ORRChem) of 18 May 2005

***Annex 1.1***

(Art. 3)

**Halogenated organic compounds****1 Prohibitions****1.1 Substances and preparations**

It is prohibited to manufacture, place on the market, import in a private capacity, or use:

- a. halogenated organic compounds within the meaning of section 3;
- b. substances and preparations that contain halogenated organic compounds within the meaning of section 3 that are not merely unavoidable impurities.

**3 List of prohibited halogenated organic compounds****a. *Aliphatic monocyclic systems***

- hexachlorocyclohexane (HCH, all isomers), with the exception of gamma-hexachlorocyclohexane (lindane, CAS no.15 58-89-9) in medicinal products.

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**(g) Status of the chemical under international conventions**