BENTAZONE (172)

EXPLANATION

The Meeting wished to clarify the statement in the report of the 1998 Joint Meeting (p. 53, last para) that "Metabolism studies in lactating goats and hens showed that the main residue component in meat, milk and eggs was the parent bentazone with small amounts of 6- or 8-hydroxybentazone and their glucuronide and sulfate conjugates."

APPRAISAL

The statement was based on the 1995 residue evaluation of the compound. Reconsideration of that evaluation indicated that the identified components of the residues in the milk and tissues of goats dosed with bentazone were bentazone and its *N*-glucuronide. "No 6-hydroxy-bentazone, 8-hydroxy-bentazone or AIBA (2-aminoisopropylbenzamide) could be found in the milk or tissues."[1] When hens were dosed with bentazone the main component of the residue in liver, muscle, fat and eggs was the parent compound. The liver contained bentazone (0.92 mg/kg) and its *N*-glucuronide conjugate (0.12 mg/kg). In the excreta 6-hydroxybentazone accounted for 15% of the radioactivity[2].

Residues of 6-hydroxybentazone and 8-hydroxybentazone and their sulfates were identified in the milk and tissues of goats dosed with the 6- and 8-hydroxy compounds, and 6-hydroxybentazone was found after dosing lactating goats with mixtures of bentazone and 6-hydroxybentazone.

It is emphasized that this clarification does not affect the conclusions of the 1998 Joint Meeting.

[1] 1995 residue evaluation, p. 9, para 4
[2] " " " , p. 11, penultimate para