

EXAMPLES OF CONTAMINATION

1997 - UK : Milumil withdrawn from sale after being linked with salmonella infection.

1997 - USA: FDA recalled Nestle's Carnation follow-up formula because of adulteration and production under unsanitary conditions. Linked with mild gastrointestinal illness. 11,317 cases recalled.

1996 - USA: Carnation Alsoy Concentrate liquid in 32 oz. cans withdrawn because instructions on the top of the can stated: "Do not add water". Mislabeling could have led infants consuming undiluted, concentrated formula. The side label indicated the addition of water.

1996 - USA: Heinz apple and prune juice for infants in 4 oz. bottles recalled because they contained quantities of lead in excess of 80 ppb.

1994 - Sri Lanka: Customs officers sent back a large consignment of Nestle's milk powder imported from Poland because it was contaminated with radioactive particles.



1993 - USA: Nutramigen formula was recalled after it is found to contain broken glass.

1993 - USA: Soyalac formula withdrawn following discovery of salmonella contamination.

Transportation pollutes and wastes fuel

Cow's milk, grains and additives used in making baby food travel long distances even before processing, and then additional long distances on the way to central, regional warehouses, and finally, to retail outlets. Many countries import artificial baby food and feeding bottles from the other side of the world.

Such transportation wastes fuel and contributes to air pollution everywhere.



Breastmilk does not have to be shipped around the world; every mother has a ready supply wherever she goes.

Breastmilk needs no extra packaging

The packaging of manufactured baby milk wastes tin plate, paper and plastic. Bottles, teats and other feeding equipment also waste plastic, rubber, silicon and glass.

The 550 million tins of artificial baby milk sold each year to bottle feed all US babies, stacked end to end, would circle the earth one and a half times.

In 1987, 4.5 million feeding bottles were sold in Pakistan alone. These feeding bottles stacked end to end would reach the top of Mount Everest.

Preparation: more waste...

A 3-month-old bottle-fed baby requires a litre of water per day to mix with the formula powder. Another two litres are needed to sterilize the bottles and teats. If the water is boiled over a wood fire, more than 73 kg of wood are

needed to prepare a year's feeds.

In many parts of the world, water and fuel are so scarce that few mothers are able to keep the bottles and teats clean and use only boiled, cooled water to make up the feeds.

Breastmilk is ready to use at the right temperature, does not need to be sterilized, and causes no pollution.

