^{254}Es

The observation of ^{254}Es was reported in 1954 by Fields et al. from Argonne in the paper "Additional Properties of Isotopes of Elements 99 and 100" (1954Fi14). "This note describes the results obtained from a four-day irradiation of an element-99 fraction with californium impurity in the Materials Testing Reactor (MTR) at Arco, Idaho to produce the following reaction: $99^{253}(n,\gamma)99^{254} \xrightarrow{\beta} 100^{254}$." The half-life was measured to be 37(1) h and corresponds to an isomer. A few weeks earlier the Berkeley group had described the formation of 100^{254} and the "... possible reaction sequence leading to its production might be the following ..." included ^{254}Es (1954Ha73). However, no properties of ^{254}Es were reported. The Berkeley group confirmed the half-life measurement (1954Ch23) only a few weeks following the Argonne paper. The ground state ($\sim$320 d) was observed two years later by Jones et al. (1956Jo09).

Adapted from reference (2011Me01)

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