Attachment I

PESTICIDE MONITORING APPARATUS
Resin holder with foil cover

Flow control valve

Approximately 1.5 meters
Attachment II

QUALITY ASSURANCE PLAN FOR PESTICIDE MONITORING
State of California  
California Environmental Protection Agency  
Air Resources Board

QUALITY ASSURANCE PLAN
FOR PESTICIDE MONITORING

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Monitoring and laboratory Division

and

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Revised: February 4, 1994

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Chief
Engineering Evaluation Branch

This Quality Assurance Plan has been reviewed by the staff of the California Air Resources Board and approved for publication. Approval does not signify that the contents necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Air Resources Board, nor does mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.
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QUALITY ASSURANCE PLAN FOR PESTICIDE MONITORING

I. Introduction

At the request of the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR), the Air Resources Board (ARB) documents the "level of airborne emissions" of specified pesticides. This is usually accomplished through two types of monitoring. The first consists of one month of ambient monitoring in the area of, and during the season of, peak use of the specified pesticide. The second is monitoring near a field during and after (up to 72 hours) an application has occurred. These are referred to as ambient and application monitoring, respectively. To help clarify the differences between these two monitoring programs, ambient and application are highlighted in bold in this document when the information applies specifically to either program. The purpose of this document is to specify quality assurance activities for the sampling and laboratory analysis of the monitored pesticide.

A. Quality Assurance Policy Statement

It is the policy of the ARB to provide DPR with as reliable and accurate data as possible. The goal of this document is to identify procedures that ensure the implementation of this policy.

B. Quality Assurance Objectives

Quality assurance objectives for pesticide monitoring are: (1) to establish the necessary quality control activities relating to site selection, sample collection, sampling protocol, sample analysis, data reduction and validation, and final reports; and (2) to assess data quality in terms of precision, accuracy and completeness.

II. Siting

Probe siting criteria for ambient pesticide monitoring are listed in TABLE 1. Normally four sites will be chosen. The monitoring objective for these sites is to measure population exposure near the perimeter of towns or in the area of the town where the highest concentrations are expected based on prevailing winds and proximity to applications. One of these sites is usually designated to be an urban area "background" site and is located away from any expected applications; however, because application sites are not known prior to the start of monitoring, a "zero level" background may not occur. Detectable levels of some pesticides may also be found at an urban area background site if they are marketed for residential as well as commercial use.

Probe siting criteria for placement of samplers near a pesticide application for collection of samples are the same as ambient monitoring (TABLE 1). In addition, the placement of the application samplers should be to obtain upwind and downwind concentrations of the pesticide. Since winds are variable and do not always conform to expected patterns, the goal is to surround the
application field with one sampler on each side (assuming the normal rectangular shape) at a distance of about 20 yards from the perimeter of the field. However, conditions at the site will dictate the actual placement of monitoring stations. Once monitoring has begun, the sampling stations will not be moved, even if the wind direction has changed.

III. Sampling

All sampling will be coordinated through the County Agricultural Commissioner's Office and the local Air Quality Management District (AQMD) or Air Pollution Control District (APCD). Monitoring sites will be arranged through the cooperation of applicators, growers or owners for application monitoring. For selection of ambient sites, ARB staff will work through authorized representatives of private companies or government agencies.

A. Background Sampling

A background sample will be taken at all sites prior to an application. It should be a minimum of one hour and longer if scheduling permits. This sample will establish if any of the pesticide being monitored is present prior to the application. It also can indicate if other environmental factors are interfering with the detection of the pesticide of concern during analysis.

While one of the sampling sites for ambient monitoring is referred to as an "urban area background," it is not a background sample in the conventional sense because the intent is not to find a non-detectable level or a "background" level prior to a particular event (or application). This site is chosen to represent a low probability of finding the pesticide and a high probability of public exposure if significant levels of the pesticide are detected at this urban background site.

B. Schedule

Samples for ambient pesticide monitoring will be collected over 24-hour periods on a schedule, in general, of 4 samples per week for 4 weeks. Field application monitoring will follow the schedule guidelines outlined in TABLE 2.

C. Blanks and Spikes

Field blanks should be included with each batch of samples submitted for analysis. This will usually require one blank for an application monitoring and one blank per week for an ambient monitoring program. Whenever possible, trip spikes should be provided for both ambient and application monitoring. The spiked samples should be stored in the same manner as the samples and returned to the laboratory for analysis.

D. Meteorological Station

Data on wind speed and direction will be collected during application monitoring by use of an on-site meteorological station. If appropriate
equipment is available, temperature and humidity data should also be collected and all meteorological data recorded on a data logger. Meteorological data are not collected for ambient monitoring.

E. Collocation

For both ambient and application monitoring, precision will be demonstrated by collecting samples from a collocated sampling site. An additional ambient sampler will be collocated with one of the samplers and will be rotated among the sampling sites so that duplicate samples are collected at least three different sites. The samplers should be located between two and four meters apart if they are high volume samplers in order to preclude airflow interference. This consideration is not necessary for low (<20 liters/min.) flow samplers. The duplicate sampler for application monitoring should be downwind at the sampling site where the highest concentrations are expected. When feasible, duplicate application samples should be collected at every site.

F. Calibration

Field flow calibrators (rotometers, flow meters or critical orifices) shall be calibrated against a referenced standard prior to a monitoring period. This referenced standard should be verified, certified or calibrated with respect to a primary standard at least once a year with the method clearly documented. Sampling flow rates should be checked in the field and noted before and after each sampling period. Before flow rates are checked, the sampling system should be leak checked.

G. Flow Audit

A flow audit of the field air samplers should be conducted by an independent agency prior to monitoring. If results of this audit indicate actual flow rates differ from the calibrated values by more than 10%, the field calibrators should be rechecked until they meet this objective.

H. Log Sheets

Field data sheets will be used to record sampling date and location, initials of individuals conducting sampling, sample number or identification, initial and final time, initial and final flow rate, malfunctions, leak checks, weather conditions (e.g., rain) and any other pertinent data which could influence sample results.

I. Preventative Maintenance

To prevent loss of data, spare pumps and other sampling materials should be kept available in the field by the operator. A periodic check of sampling pumps, meteorological instruments, extension cords, etc., should be made by sampling personnel.
**TABLE 1. PESTICIDE PROBE SITING CRITERIA SUMMARY**

The following probe siting criteria apply to pesticide monitoring and are summarized from the U.S. EPA ambient monitoring criteria (40 CFR 58) which are used by the ARB.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Height Above Ground (Meters)</th>
<th>Minimum Distance From Supporting Structure (Meters)</th>
<th>Other Spacing Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2-15</td>
<td>1 1</td>
<td>1. Should be 20 meters from trees.</td>
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<td>2. Distance from sampler to obstacle, such as buildings, must be at least twice the height the obstacle protrudes above the sampler.</td>
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<td>3. Must have unrestricted air-flow 270° around sampler.</td>
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<td>4. Samplers at a collocated site (duplicate for quality assurance) should be 2-4 meters apart if samplers are high flow, &gt;20 liters per minute.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
TABLE 2. GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATION SAMPLING SCHEDULE

All samplers should be sited approximately 20 yards from the edge of the field; four samplers to surround the field whenever possible. At least one site should have a collocated (duplicate) sampler.

The approximate sampling schedule for each station is listed below; however, these are only approximate guidelines since starting time and length of application will dictate variances.

- Background sample (minimum 1-hour sample: within 24 hours prior to application).

- Application + 1 hour after application combined sample.

- 2-hour sample from 1 to 3 hours after the application.

- 4-hour sample from 3 to 7 hours after the application.

- 8-hour sample from 7 to 15 hours after the application.

- 9-hour sample from 15 to 24 hours after the application.

- 1st 24-hour sample starting at the end of the 9-hour sample.

- 2nd 24-hour sample starting 24 hours after the end of the 9-hour sample.
IV. Protocol

Prior to conducting any pesticide monitoring, a protocol, using this document as a guideline, will be written by the ARB staff. The protocol describes the overall monitoring program, the purpose of the monitoring and includes the following topics:

1. Identification of the sample site locations, if possible.

2. Description of the sampling train and a schematic showing the component parts and their relationship to one another in the assembled train, including specifics of the sampling media (e.g., resin type and volume, filter composition, pore size and diameter, catalog number, etc.).


4. Description of the analytical method.

5. Tentative test schedule and expected test personnel.

Specific sampling methods and activities will also be described in the monitoring plan (protocol) for review by ARB and DPR. Criteria which apply to all sampling include: (1) chain of custody forms (APPENDIX I), accompanying all samples, (2) light and rain shields protecting samples during monitoring, and (3) storing samples in an ice chest (with dry ice if required for sample stability) or freezer, until delivery to the laboratory. The protocol should include: equipment specifications (when necessary), special sample handling and an outline of sampling procedures. The protocol should specify any procedures unique to a specific pesticide.

V. Analysis

Analysis of all field samples must be conducted by a fully competent laboratory. To ensure the capability of the laboratory, an analytical audit and systems audit should be performed by the ARB Quality Management and Operations Support Branch (QMOSB) prior to the first analysis. After a history of competence is demonstrated, an audit prior to each analysis is not necessary. However, during each analysis spiked samples should be provided to the laboratory to demonstrate accuracy.

A. Standard Operating Procedures

Analysis methods should be documented in a Standard Operating Procedure (S.O.P.) before monitoring begins. The S.O.P. includes: instrument and operating parameters, sample preparation, calibration procedures and quality assurance procedures. The limit of quantitation must be defined if different than the limit of detection. The method of calculating these values should also be clearly explained in the S.O.P.
1. Instrument and Operating Parameters

A complete description of the instrument and the conditions should be given so that any qualified person could duplicate the analysis.

2. Sample Preparation

Detailed information should be given for sample preparation including equipment and solvents required.

3. Calibration Procedures

The S.O.P. plan will specify calibration procedures including intervals for recalibration, calibration standards, environmental conditions for calibrations and a calibration record keeping system. When possible, National Institute of Standards and Technology traceable standards should be used for calibration of the analytical instruments in accordance with standard analytical procedures which include multiple calibration points that bracket the expected concentrations.

4. Quality Control

Validation testing should provide an assessment of accuracy, precision, interferences, method recovery, analysis of pertinent breakdown products and limits of detection (and quantitation if different from the limit of detection). Method documentation should include confirmation testing with another method when possible, and quality control activities necessary to routinely monitor data quality control such as use of control samples, control charts, use of surrogates to verify individual sample recovery, field blanks, lab blanks and duplicate analysis. All data should be properly recorded in a laboratory notebook.

The method should include the frequency of analysis for quality control samples. Analysis of quality control samples are recommended before each day of laboratory analysis and after every tenth sample. Control samples should be found to be within control limits previously established by the lab performing the analysis. If results are outside the control limits, the method should be reviewed, the instrument recalibrated and the control sample reanalyzed.

All quality control studies should be completed prior to sampling and include recovery data from at least three samples spiked at least two concentrations. Instrument variability should be assessed with three replicate injections of a single sample at each of the spiked concentrations. A stability study should be done with triplicate spiked samples being stored under actual conditions and analyzed at appropriate time intervals. This study should be conducted for a minimum period of time equal to the anticipated storage period. Prior to each sampling study, a conversion/collection efficiency study should be conducted under field conditions (drawing ambient air through spiked sample media at actual flow rates for the recommended sampling time) with three
replicates at two spiked concentrations and a blank. Breakthrough studies should also be conducted to determine the capacity of the adsorbent material if high levels of pesticide are expected or if the suitability of the adsorbent is uncertain.

VI. Final Reports and Data Reduction

The mass of pesticide found in each sample should be used along with the volume of air sampled (from the field data sheet) to calculate the mass per volume for each sample. For each sampling date and site, concentrations should be reported in a table as \( \mu \text{g/m}^3 \) (microgram per cubic meter). When the pesticide exists in the vapor phase under ambient conditions, the concentration should also be reported as ppbv (parts per billion, by volume) or the appropriate volume-to-volume units. Collocated samples should be reported separately as raw data, but then averaged and treated as a single sample for any data summaries. For samples where the end flow rate is different from that set at the start of the sampling period, the average of these two flow rates should be used to determine the total sample volume; however, the minimum and maximum concentrations possible for that sample should also be presented.

The final report should indicate the dates of sampling as well as the dates of analyses. These data can be compared with the stability studies to determine if degradation of the samples has occurred.

Final reports of all monitoring are sent to the Department of Pesticide Regulation, the Agricultural Commissioner's Office, the local AQMD as well as the applicator and/or the grower. Final reports are available to the public by contacting the ARB Engineering Evaluation Branch.

A. Ambient Reports

The final report for ambient monitoring should include a map of the monitored area which shows nearby towns or communities and their relationship to the monitoring stations, along with a list of the monitoring locations (e.g., name and address of the business or public building). A site description should be completed for any monitoring site which might have characteristics that could affect the monitoring results (e.g., obstructions). For ambient monitoring reports, information on terrain, obstructions and other physical properties which do not conform to the siting criteria or may influence the data should be described.

Ambient data should be summarized for each monitoring location by maximum and second maximum concentration, average (using only those values greater than the minimum quantitation limit), total number of samples and number of samples above the minimum quantitation limit. For this purpose, collocated samples are averaged and treated as a single sample.

B. Application Reports

Similarly, a map or sketch indicating the general location (nearby towns, highways, etc.) of the field chosen for application monitoring should be included as well as a detailed drawing of the field itself and the relative positions of the monitors. For application monitoring reports, as
much data as possible should be collected about the application conditions (e.g., formulation, application rate, acreage applied, length of application and method of application). This may be provided either through a copy of the Notice of Intent, the Pesticide Control Advisor's (PCA) recommendation or completion of the Application Site Checklist (APPENDIX II). Wind speed and direction data should be reported for the application site during the monitoring period. Any additional meteorological data collected should also be reported.

C. Quality Assurance

All quality control and quality assurance samples (blanks, spikes, etc.) analyzed by the laboratory must be reported. Results of all method development and/or validation studies (if not contained in the S.O.P.) will also be reported. The results of any quality assurance activities conducted by an agency other than the analytical laboratory should be included in the report as an appendix. This includes analytical audits, system audits and flow rate audits.
CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD
MONITORING & LABORATORY DIVISION
P.O. Box 2815, Sacramento CA 95812

CHAIN OF CUSTODY
SAMPLE RECORD

Job #: Date: / / 
Sample/Run #: Time: 
Job name: 
Sample Location: 
Type of Sample: 
Log #':

<table>
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<tr>
<th>ACTION</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>INITIALS</th>
<th>METHOD OF STORAGE</th>
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RETURN THIS FORM TO: ____________________________
APPLICATION CHECKLIST

1. Field size.
2. Field location (Section, Range and Township).
3. Application rate.
4. Formulation.
5. Method of application (ground, air, irrigation, injection, tarping after application, etc.)
6. Length of application.
7. Any unusual weather conditions during application or monitoring period (rain, fog, wind).
8. Any visible drift from the field?
9. Pattern of application (e.g., east to west).