



Department of Pesticide Regulation



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MEMORANDUM

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SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF PESTICIDE ANALYSIS OF MONTHLY
SURFACE WATER MONITORING FOR THE RED IMPORTED FIRE ANT
PROJECT IN ORANGE COUNTY, FEBRUARY 2002 (STUDY 183)

SUMMARY

During February 2002, monthly surface water samples were collected from five sites in Orange County, California. Water samples showed no detects of fenoxycarb, hydramethylnon, pyriproxyfen, chlorpyrifos, dimethoate, malathion, and methidathion. Bifenthrin was detected in three samples ranging from at 0.077 to 0.64 parts per billion (ppb) at the two nursery sites and one urban site. Diazinon was detected in three samples ranging from 0.083 to 0.685 ppb at two urban and an integrated site. Water samples collected from a mitigation filter strip planted with *Canna* showed a 87% reduction of bifenthrin concentrations.

SCOPE OF THIS MEMORANDUM

This memorandum reports results of water sampling conducted by the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR), under interagency agreement with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), for the Red Imported Fire Ant (RIFA) control project. Data included here are from the February 14, 2002 monthly monitoring, and encompass results from chemical analyses. This memorandum summarizes results for bifenthrin, fenoxycarb, hydramethylnon, pyriproxyfen, and five organophosphorus insecticides: chlorpyrifos, diazinon, dimethoate, malathion, and methidathion. Only bifenthrin, fenoxycarb, hydramethylnon, pyriproxyfen, and chlorpyrifos are used in the RIFA control program. The other four organophosphates are in our multiresidue analytical method and are included in this report to assist in the interpretation of the toxicity results. An in-depth interpretation of data is not included here, but will be provided in the final report when the 2002 pesticide use report becomes available.

Reports of the monthly surface water sampling events will continue through the conclusion of the study. This memo is the twenty-ninth in the monthly sampling series. You can request

previous sampling results memos by calling the number above or you may view or download them from DPR's website at <www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/rifa>.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Sample and Data Collection

On February 14, 2002, surface water samples were collected at five sites, C, D, E, F, and G within the Orange County treatment area (Table 1 and Figure 1) including one rinse blank. Site G was sampled at the outflow of the vegetative filter strip (see mitigation sampling). No sample was collected at site H due to lack of water. This sampling event did not coincide with measurable rainfall.

Table 1. Sampling site descriptions in Orange County, California

Site #	Description	Coordinates
A	Bolsa Chica Channel at Westminster Ave.	N 33°45'35", W 118°02'36"
B	East Garden Grove Channel at Gothard St.	N 33°43'03", W 117°59'59"
C	Westcliff Park	N 33°37'24", W 117°54'02"
D	Bonita Creek at San Diego Creek	N 33°39'03", W 117°51'49"
E	San Diego Creek at Campus Dr.	N 33°39'18", W 117°50'44"
F	Hines at Weir	N 33°42'30", W 117°44'19"
G	El Modeno Gardens	N 33°42'43", W 117°44'16"
H	Marshburn Slough at Irvine Blvd.	N 33°41'45", W 117°44'02"
I	San Juan Creek at Stonehill Dr.	N 33°28'31", W 117°40'43"
J	Arroyo Trabuco at Oso Parkway	N 33°35'06", W 117°38'09"

All water samples were collected at center channel using a 10-liter stainless steel bucket and divided into one-liter amber sample bottles using a Geotech® 10-port splitter. Samples designated for organophosphate chemical analysis were preserved by acidification with 3N hydrochloric acid to a pH between 3.0 and 3.5. Because diazinon rapidly degrades under acidic conditions, it was analyzed from a separate, un-acidified sample. Samples designated for toxicity testing were delivered to the testing laboratory within 36 hours of collection. All samples were stored on wet ice or in a 4° C refrigerator until transported to the appropriate laboratory for analysis.

Mitigation Sampling

In addition to the monthly surface water samples being collected at sites throughout Orange County, mitigation samples are being collected at el modeno Gardens (site G) from a concrete lined ditch approximately 160 yards long, three and a half feet deep, and four to six feet wide. The filter strip consists of nine successive settling basins planted with *Canna x 'Tropicana'*. At the time of this sampling, *Canna* in all basins had been cut down. Water samples are collected at the inlet and outlet of the filter strip. During the February sampling, water flow into the filter strip was very low with additional water entering the filter strip from a rose growing area after collection of the inlet sample.

Water samples were collected and transported using the technique described previously.

Environmental Measurements

Water quality parameters measured *in situ* included temperature, pH, electrical conductivity (EC), and dissolved oxygen (DO). Water pH was measured using an IQ Scientific Instruments® (model IQ 150) pH meter. EC, water temperature, and DO were measured using an YSI® multi parameter meter (model 85).

Insecticide Analyses

All water samples were analyzed for bifenthrin, fenoxycarb, hydramethylnon, pyriproxyfen, chlorpyrifos, diazinon, dimethoate, malathion, and methidathion. The CDFCA Center for Analytical Chemistry performed all analyses using gas chromatography and a flame photometric detector for the five organophosphorus insecticides; a high performance liquid chromatography and a ultra violet detector for fenoxycarb, hydramethylnon, and pyriproxyfen; and gas chromatography with an electron capture detector confirmed with a mass selective detector for bifenthrin. The reporting limit (reliable detection levels) for chlorpyrifos and diazinon is 0.04 ppb, 0.1 ppb for fenoxycarb and pyriproxyfen, 0.2 ppb for hydramethylnon, and 0.05 ppb for the other insecticides.

RESULTS and DISCUSSIONS

Insecticide Concentrations

Of the nine insecticides analyzed, only chlorpyrifos, bifenthrin, fenoxycarb, hydramethylnon, and pyriproxyfen were allowed use in nurseries for treatment of fire ants to comply with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's quarantine requirements. All of the organophosphorus insecticides listed are registered for uses in commercial agriculture, nurseries, golf courses or parks for the control of other insect pests. Malathion and diazinon are widely available for homeowner use.

The Westcliff Park site, an urban drain, had the highest concentration of diazinon (0.685 ppb) with additional detections of diazinon at Bonita Creek and San Diego Creek. Bifenthrin was detected at Westcliff Park and the two nursery sites. Water from the nursery sites did not contribute to bifenthrin residues in water at San Diego Creek.

The *Canna* vegetative filter strip showed an 87% reduction of bifenthrin residues.

Table 2. Insecticide concentrations in monthly surface water samples, February 2002, Orange County, California.

Site	Concentration (pbb)								
	bifenthrin	fenoxycarb	hydramethylnon	pyriproxyfen	chlorpyrifos	diazinon	dimethoate	malathion	methidathion
C	0.077	ND ¹	ND	ND	ND	0.685	ND	ND	ND
D	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	0.134	ND	ND	ND
E	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	0.083	ND	ND	ND
F	0.64	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
G	0.527	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
RB ²	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND

¹ ND = none detected at the reporting limit for that chemical.

² RB = rinse blank

Table 3. Insecticide concentrations at mitigation site, February 2002, Orange County, California.

Location	Concentration (ppb)								
	bifenthrin	fenoxycarb	hydramethylnon	pyriproxyfen	chlorpyrifos	diazinon	dimethoate	malathion	methidathion
<u>Surface Water Samples</u>									
Filter strip inflow	4.66	ND ¹	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Filter strip outflow	0.527	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND

¹ ND = none detected at the reporting limit for that chemical.

Toxicity Data

No toxicity samples were taken. Bifenthrin detections at sites F and G were above the LC₅₀'s for *C. dubia* and Rainbow trout. Diazinon detection at site C was above the LC₅₀'s for *C. dubia*. Table 4 gives LC₅₀ values for three aquatic organisms.

Table 4. LC₅₀'s of insecticides (ppb) for three aquatic species.¹

Pesticide	Rainbow trout	<i>D. magna</i>	<i>C. dubia</i>
Bifenthrin	0.15	1.6	0.078 ²
Chlorpyrifos	10	0.1	0.13 ³
Diazinon	3200	0.96	0.51 ⁴
Dimethoate	8500	2500	NA
Fenoxycarb	1600	400	NA
Hydramethylnon	160	1140	NA
Malathion	68	1.0	1.14 ⁵ - 2.12 ⁶
Methidathion	10.5	7.2	2.2
Pyriproxyfen	>325	400	NA

¹ Data from CDPR, 2000

² Data from CDFG, 2000

³ Data from Menconi and Paul, 1994

⁴ Data from Menconi and Cox, 1994

⁵ Data from Nelson and Roline, 1998

⁶ Data from Ankley et al., 1991

Environmental Measurements

Table 4 presents the data for DO, temperature, pH, and EC. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Water Quality Control Plan, Santa Ana River Basin (1995), and the Water Quality Control Plan, San Diego Basin (1994), list the following water quality guidelines as acceptable: water temperature no higher than 78°F (25.5°C), pH between 6.5 and 8.5, and DO above 5.0 mg/L. The plans do not provide an acceptable range for EC. The pH at site C was above the maximum guideline.

Table 5. Water quality measurements at sampling sites, February 2002, Orange County, California.

Site	Temperature (°C)	pH	Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)	Electroconductivity (µS/cm)
C	21.5	9.78	16.44	1322
D	9.7	7.77	9.32	3374
E	14.0	8.03	10.84	2894
F	13.0	7.95	9.48	2356
G	17.5	6.48	6.23	2580
Filter strip inflow	11.0	7.56	8.72	2346
Filter strip outflow	17.5	6.48	6.23	2580

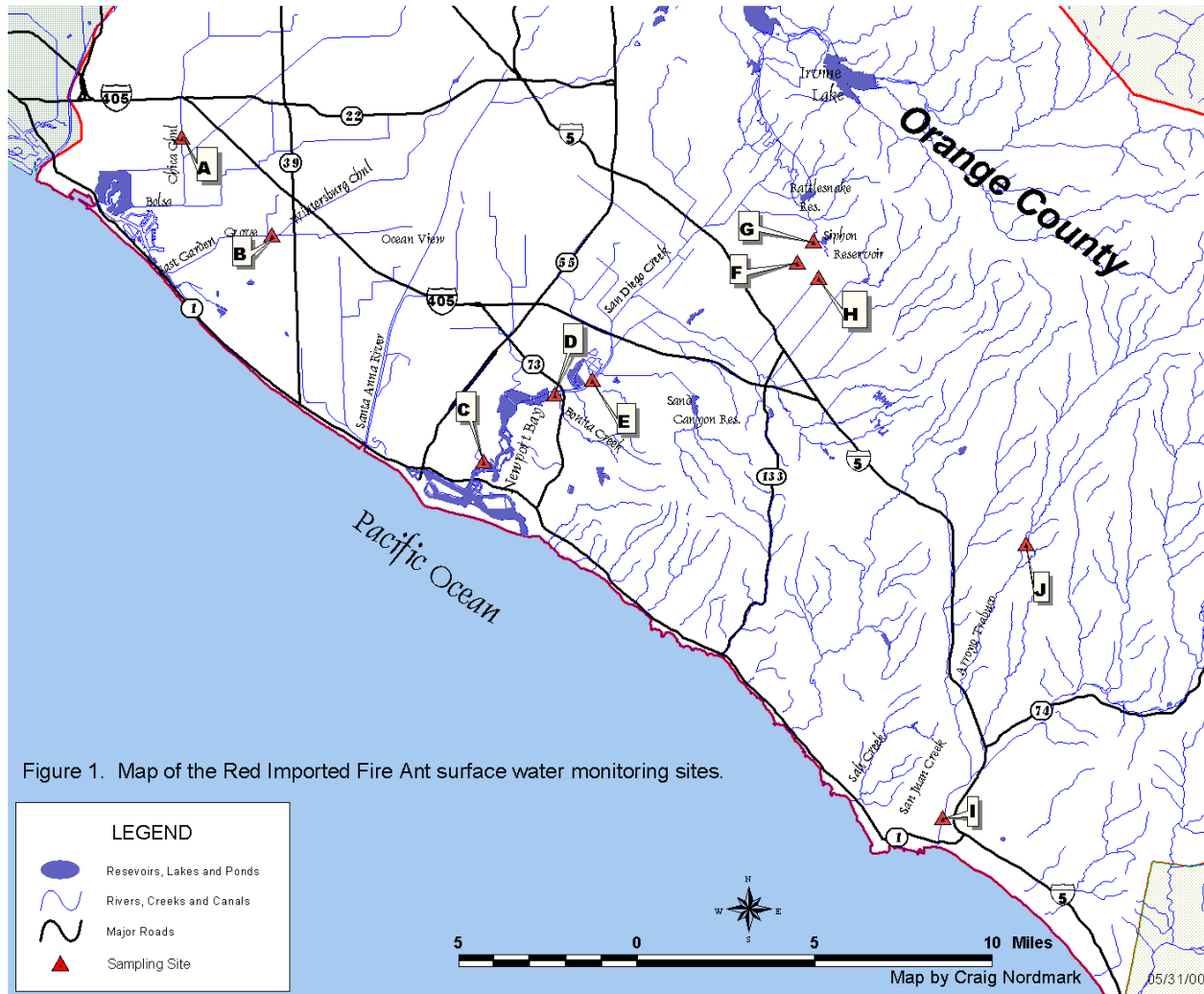


Figure 1. Map of the Red Imported Fire Ant surface water monitoring sites.

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