

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

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MEMO 4/4/84

TO: Clayton Bushong, Chief
Ecological Effects Branch

SUBJECT: Trip Report for Field Site Visit

On Friday, March 30, 1984, Les Touart, Mike Rexrode and Daniel Rieder visited a field study site at St. Michaels, MD on Eastern Shore.

The study was conducted to show that chlorothalonil can be used on soybeans and other similar crops with adequate safety to aquatic invertebrates. It was completed in 1981 and reviewed in 1983. Dan Rieder determined that the study did not meet the requirements and did not show that chlorothalonil could be used with safety to aquatics. The problems with the study were:

1. The site was not a typical soybean scenario as far as ratio of treated field size to pond size.
2. There was substantial fish mortality in the experimental pond. The mortality was attributed to a parasite rather than to the fungicide.
3. Residue analysis results were contradictory. I.e. chlorothalonil residues were found before treatment began and in the control pond.
4. It looked as though some of the runoff could have left the pond via the overflow before it would have a chance of contaminating the pond.

SDS Biotech Corporation (originally Diamond Shamrock) requested a meeting to defend the study on 3/20/84. In the meeting Dan Rieder agreed to visit the site and reconsider the study. We also said we would have the peer group look at the study and get their opinion.

The site visit lasted about 3 hours. It included a tour of the treated field and the experimental and control pond. Pictures were taken of the site and questions about the details of the study were asked. Curt Hutchinson of Wildlife International (formerly of Biospherics), Steve Schultz of SDS, and a person from Biospherics were present.

Members of EEB drove to the site and returned the same day.

Daniel Rieder 4/4/84
Daniel Rieder
Wildlife Biologist

Les Touart 4/4/84
Les Touart
Aquatic Biologist

Mike Rexrode 4/9/84
Mike Rexrode
Aquatic Biologist

cc: Norm Cook
Harry Craven
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