



**SHORT SUBJECTS
AND TIMELY TIPS
FOR PESTICIDE USERS**

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BIOLOGICAL CONTROL, IPM, AND EXOTIC PESTS PEST CONTROL

SUDDEN OAK DEATH: HOMEOWNERS FEAR FOR THEIR TREES

(Source: Susan Frankel, USDA Forest Service)

On May 11, 2002, the San Francisco Chronicle Home and Garden section featured a story entitled “Sudden Oak Death, Homeowners fear for their trees.” This article was intended as an informative look for homeowners at Sudden Oak Death. It touched upon financial implications, the history of the disease, SOD symptoms, and prevention as well as treatment. The article can be viewed at <http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/chronicle/archive/2002/05/11/HO9708.DTL> or contact Pat Skyler at (916) 454-0817, pskyler@fs.fed.us. For further information visit the Oak Mortality Task

Force website at <http://www.suddenoakdeath.org> or –

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**AGE-SPECIFIC FECUNDITY OF *ANOPLOPHORA GLABRIPENNIS*
(COLEOPTERA: CERAMBYCIDAE) ON THREE TREE SPECIES
INFESTED IN THE UNITED STATES**

(M. T. Smith, J. Bancroft, and J. Tropp)

(Source: *Environmental Entomology* 31(1): 76-83, 2002)

“Abstract: The spread of *Anoplophora glabripennis* Motschulsky (Asian long horned beetle), in the United States is dependent on its rates of reproduction and dispersal among host-tree species. Therefore, investigations of the reproductive characteristics of *A. glabripennis*, including preovipositional period, age specific fecundity and survival, on Norway maple (*Acer platanoides* L.), red maple (*Acer rubrum* L.), and black willow (*Salix nigra* Marshall) were undertaken to quantify its reproductive capacity among these host-tree species under laboratory conditions. Differences were found in preovipositional period, fecundity, egg viability and survival among the host-tree species. Oviposition rate was positively correlated with beetle body size, but negatively correlated with beetle age, bolt area, diameter, and bark thickness. Collectively, results show that in terms of adult female *A. glabripennis* survival and reproductive capacity, Norway and red maple were more suitable than black willow, with Norway maple somewhat more suitable than red maple. We hypothesize bark thickness and woody-tissue characteristics (i.e., nutritional substances, secondary substances, structural features) caused, at least in part, the observed differences in *A. glabripennis* survival and reproduction. Comparison of the various measures of *A. glabripennis* reproductive capacity was made with other cerambycids, specifically species of the subfamily Lamiinae, and implications for development of management strategies in U.S. ecosystems are discussed.”

For a copy of the paper -

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CHEMICAL CONTROL

WEEDING THE WATERWAYS

(Bill Lindelof)

(Source: The Sacramento Bee, July 10, 2002)

The Sacramento, CA Delta waterways are being sprayed this summer to kill water hyacinths that are clogging farm irrigation pumps, stopping boat engines and displacing native plants that provide habitat for insects and animals. The previous herbicide-spraying program was stopped about 18 months ago due to an environmental group’s lawsuit. The group argued that the spraying should be regulated by the Clean Water Act. The suit was dismissed in 2001 after the Department of Boating and Waterways applied for a pollution-discharge permit from the State Water Resources Control Board. Spraying commenced last summer for about 3 months and will continue this summer for about the same length of time. In addition to spraying water hyacinths, a program has been also been launched to combat *Egeria densa*. For a copy of the article –

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REGULATORY

METHODOLOGY FOR LOWER TOXICITY PESTICIDE CHEMICALS; NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

(Source: Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Register: June 13, 2002, Vol. 67, No. 114, pp. 40732-40734)

Summary: EPA is soliciting comments on a document entitled “Methodology for Determining the Data Needed and the Types of Assessments Necessary to Make FFDCSA Section 408 Safety Determinations for Lower Toxicity Pesticide Chemicals.”

The Agency is announcing the availability of a methodology for assessing the hazards and risks of lower toxicity pesticide chemicals for public comment and review. The paper describes how lower toxicity pesticide chemicals, including inert ingredients, would be evaluated for use in pesticide products. Development of this methodology began as a result of OPP’s need to 1) develop a new methodology for assessing inert ingredients to comply with the requirements of the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) of 1996 which amended both the FFDCSA and FIFRA, and 2) to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the inert review process.

A copy of the document is available at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-PEST/2002/June/Day-13/p14996.htm>, or contact Pat Skyler, (916) 454-0817, pskyler@fs.fed.us. The comment period for docket ID number OPP-2002-0069 has been extended to October 11, 2002 (Federal Register, August 28, 2002, Vol. 67, No. 167, pp. 55252-55253, <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-PEST/2002/August/Day-28/p21937.htm>). Comments may be submitted by mail, electronically, or in person. For further information –

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boyle.kathryn@epa.gov

ATRAZINE EVALUATION DEADLINE EXTENSION

(Source: *Pestnews*, ed. Kenneth Olds and EPA Pesticide Program Update, August 16, 2002)

On Friday, August 9th, the EPA filed a motion to amend a federal court consent decree to extend the deadline for completion of the Interim Reregistration Eligibility Decision (IREED) for the herbicide atrazine. EPA was originally expected to complete the IRED for atrazine by August 3rd. The Agency and the Natural Resources Defense Council jointly agreed to request that the court extend the deadline for the IRED to January 31, 2003 to allow time to review new data on atrazine’s environmental effects. The new schedule includes 1) an IRED issued by January 31, 2003, and 2) a revised IRED by October 31, 2003. The revised IRED will consider a number of additional new studies on potential amphibian risk. This additional information is expected to be submitted in the coming months, and the Consent Decree obligates EPA to review data relevant to these issues, submitted before February 28, 2003. EPA will seek SAP guidance on the Agency’s assessment of these data and on other scientific issues concerning atrazine. If the determination is made, after the SAP review, that there is insufficient data to warrant regulatory action based on amphibian risk, the Agency will explain its decision to exclude the amphibian risk issue from the IRED and take steps to insure that such additional data will be sought. Additional information on atrazine is available at

<http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/reregistration/atrazine/> or –

CONTACT: EPA, COMMUNICATION SERVICES BRANCH (VA) (703) 305-5017

HUMAN HEALTH

FDA GIVES NOD TO WEST NILE TRIAL THERAPY

(Source: Washington Post (internet), 8/21/2002)

The first national trial of a drug to treat West Nile virus has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration. The trial, being conducted by James Rahal, New York Hospital Queens, will involve 40 hospitalized people, aged 50 and over, chosen at random. The drug alpha-interferon will be administered to half of the patients in a randomized and controlled trial. The drug has been shown in lab tests to be effective against West Nile virus. The article is available online at <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A43934-2002Aug21.html> or

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURE HEALTH STUDY

(Source: *Georgia Pest Management News*, May 2002).

A national Agriculture Health Study is underway to investigate links between agriculture practices and health effects. The collaborative study of more than 90,000 pesticide applicators is expected to last more than 10 years. The results will have important implications for EPA regulation of pesticides. The highlights of published results, questionnaires, chemicals examined, fact sheets for pesticide applicators and the agricultural extension community, and plans for future studies can be found on the internet at <http://www.aghealth.org/results.html> or -

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MISCELLANEOUS

PEST RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH IMPORTING WOOD TO THE UNITED STATES

(Borys M. Tkacz)

(*Can. J. Plant Pathol.* 24: 111-116, 2002)

“Abstract: Increasing world trade in unmanufactured wood articles has amplified the risks of inadvertent introduction of pests into new environments. Previous introductions of non-native invasive organisms into the United States have resulted in severe outbreaks with economic and ecological disruption in forests. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and the USDA Forest Service have developed a pest risk assessment process that attempts to identify the risks associated with importation of unmanufactured wood articles. Assessments have been completed for importation into the United States of logs from Russia, New Zealand, Mexico, and South America. The results of these assessments are considered in developing regulatory approaches to preventing introductions of non-native invasive organisms.”

The paper is available online at <http://www.nrc.ca/cisti/journals/tcjpp/plant24/k02-005.pdf> or -

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**NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION
2003 PULLING TOGETHER INITIATIVE (PTI)
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

This is an annual call for projects for the initiative entitled *Pulling Together: A Public/Private Partnership for Invasive and Noxious Plant Management* to be funded through a partnership program between the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of Defense, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and USDA Forest Service. (Please note, Forest Service (FS) and Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) cannot apply for or administer FS or BOR funds under this RFP, but they are encouraged to partner with other groups to submit proposals.)

The PTI provides a means for federal agencies to be full partners with state and local agencies, private landowners, and other interested parties in developing long-term weed management projects within the scope of an integrated pest management strategy. The goals of PTI are: 1) to prevent, manage, or eradicate invasive and noxious plants through a coordinated program of public/private partnerships; and 2) to increase public awareness of the adverse impacts of invasive and noxious plants. For a copy of the RFP, including instructions and application form, visit their website at <http://www.nfwf.org/programs/pti.htm>, or send an email to Jackie.Burson@nfwf.org and type "PTI RFP2003" on the subject line. Applications are due by November 6, 2002. PTI will fund projects between March 1, 2003 and September 30, 2004. For further information –

CONTACT: JACKIE BURSON (DC)

(202) 857-0166
Jackie.Burson@nfwf.org

RESEARCH PROPOSALS AWARDED FUNDING THROUGH SB 1740

(Source: *Noxious Times*, Vol. 4, No. 3 and 4, Winter and Spring 2002)

As a part of the funding for SB 1740, there is \$530,000 available for research contracts. In March 2001, proposals were requested from "qualified scientists to perform research on the biology, ecology, and management of noxious and invasive weeds." The following seven research proposals were selected to receive funding:

- Economic Losses from Yellow Starthistle in California and Applications to Potential Biological Invasions (Dr. Mark Eiswerth, University of Nevada, Reno (775) 327-5085, eiswerth@unr.edu.)
- Resistance of Restored Central Valley Grassland Communities to Yellow Starthistle Invasion (Dr. Joseph DiTomaso, University of California, Davis (530) 754-8715, ditomaso@vegmil.ucdavis.edu.)
- Prevention and Management of *Arundo donas* in Riparian Ecosystems (Dr. Jodie Holt, University of California, Riverside (909) 787-3801, Jodie.holt@ucr.edu.)
- Biocontrol Implications of the Toxicology of Yellow Starthistle in Sheep (Dr. Wolfgang Pittroff, University of California, Davis (530) 752-5362.)

- Integrated Management of Medusahead and Other Noxious Annual Grasses and Restoration of Degraded Grassland to Native Species (Dr. Joseph DiTomaso, University of California, Davis, (530) 754-8715, ditomaso@vegmail.ucdavis.edu).
- Enhancing Yellow Starthistle Biological Control in the Field (Dr. David Spencer, USDA, University of California, Davis (530) 752-1096, dfspencer@ucdavis.edu).
- Yellow Starthistle Biological Control – Foreign Exploration (Dr. Chuck Quimby, USDA, (303) 275-5020, cquimby@fs.fed.us).

ROOT DISEASE, LONGLEAF PINE MORTALITY, AND PRESCRIBED BURNING

(W.J. Otrosina, C.H. Walkinshaw, S.J. Zarnoch, S. Sung, and B.T. Sullivan)

(Reference: Outcalt, Kenneth W., ed. 2002. *Proceedings of the eleventh biennial southern silvicultural research conference*. Gen. Tech. Rep. SRS-48. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 622 p.)

“Abstract: A study was initiated at the Savannah River Site, New Ellenton, SC, to determine factors involved in decline of longleaf pine associated with prescribed burning. Pretreatment and post-treatment surveys were conducted on all treatment plots. Symptomatic trees were recorded by means of a crown rating system based upon symptom severity. Three years after prescribed burning treatments were initiated, mortality and numbers of symptomatic trees increased in the hot burn plots. Crown symptoms corresponded to tree physiological status determined by cambial sucrose synthase activity. Root pathogenic fungi such as *Leptographium terebrantis*, *L. procerum*, and *Heterobasidion annosum* were widespread throughout the study site, regardless of treatment. The *Leptographium* species were found to be pathogenic based upon inoculation experiments and *H. annosum* was observed to be involved in root infections and mortality. Histological studies indicated a high fine root mortality rate in the hot burn treatment. The decline syndrome on these sites is a complex of interacting factors and involves root pathogens, soil factors, root damage, and physiological dysfunction.”

The paper is available online at http://www.srs.fs.fed.us/pubs/gtr/gtr_srs048/gtr_srs048-section17.pdf (once you are on the website, scroll down 2 pages) or –

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ON THE INTERNET*

Two new Risk Assessments “Sethoxydim (Poast)” and “Surfactants Effects on Glyphosate (RODEO) Toxicity” have been added to the WO, Forest Health Protection website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/pesticide/risk.htm>.

The Western Forestry Leadership Coalition has posted on their website the report *Invasive Insects, Pathogens and Plants in Western and Pacific Island Forests – Final Report*. Access it at http://www.wflccenter.org/info_reports.html.

The Proceedings of the Fifth Oak Symposium (October 22-25, 2001, San Diego, CA) are now available online at <http://danr.ucop.edu/ihrmp/proceed/symproc01.html>. Included are eight papers on SOD, plus a wide variety of other research papers on topics such as oak ecology, restoration policy, products, and monitoring.

Available at <http://biocontrol.ifas.ufl.edu/glossary.htm> is the publication “Glossary of Expressions in Biological Control”.

The honeybee laboratory at University of California, Riverside is researching the biology of Africanized and European honeybees, developing new techniques for effectively managing these bees, and helping prepare California to deal with this new challenge. Visit their website at <http://bees.ucr.edu/>.

*Note: If you are unable to access the internet and would like a copy of any of the above items, contact Pat Skyler (916) 454-0817, pskyler@fs.fed.us.

PUBLICATIONS*

Allen, E.A. and L.M. Humble. 2002. Nonindigenous species introductions: A threat to Canada’s forests and forest economy. *Can. J. Plant Pathol.* 24: 103-110.

Hunt, R.S. 2002. Can solid deer protectors prevent blister rust from attacking white pines? *Can. J. Plant Pathol.* 24: 74-76.

Livingston, R.L., J.E. Dewey, D.P. Beckman, and L.E. Stipe. 2000. Distribution of the balsam woolly adelgid in Idaho. *Western Journal of Applied Forestry*, 15(4): 227-231.

Patten, Dr. K. Nothin’ could be fina’ than the killin’ o’ Spartina: Learning ways to control an invasive species. *Agrichemical and Environmental News*, August 2002, Issue No. 196. Available online at <http://www.aenews.wsu.edu/Aug02AENews/Aug02AENews.htm#Spartina>.

Piper, Dr. G.L. Hopping on a bad weed: Insect biological control of Dalmatian toadflax in Washington. *Agrichemical and Environmental News*, August 2002, Issue No. 196. Available online at <http://www.aenews.wsu.edu/Aug02AENews/Aug02AENews.htm#Toadflax>.

Safranyik, L. and D.A. Linton. 2002. Line transect sampling to estimate the density of lodgepole pine currently attacked by mountain pine beetle. Information Report BC-X-392. Natural Resources Canada, Canadian Forest Service, Pacific Forestry Centre, Victoria, British Columbia.

Sprengel, K., M. McWilliams, J. Johnson, D. Overhulser, A. Kanaskie, and K. Sheehan. 2002. Forest insect and disease highlights in Oregon, 2001. USDA Forest Service and Oregon Department of Forestry. Available online at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/nr/fid/health/2001highlights-or.shtml>

Sprengel, K., D. Omdal, J. Johnson, K. Ripley, J. Moore, and K. Sheehan. 2002. Forest insect and disease highlights in Washington, 2001. USDA Forest Service and Washington State Department of Natural Resources. Available online at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/nr/fid/health/2001highlights-wa.shtml>.

Swiecki, T.J. and E. Bernhardt. 2002. Factors related to *Phytophthora* canker (sudden oak death) disease risk and disease progress in coast live oak and tanoak. Phytosphere Research, Vacaville, CA. Available online at <http://phytosphere.com/publications/Phytosphere-PSWreport2002.pdf>.

Whaley, D.K. and Dr. G. L. Piper. Defusing diffuse knapweed: Biological control of an explosive weed. *Agrichemical and Environmental News*, June 2002, Issue No. 194. Available online at <http://www.aenews.wsu.edu/June02AENews/June02AENews.htm#Knapweed>.

Yu, X., A.K.M. Ekramoddoullah, D.W. Taylor, and N. Piggott. 2002. Cloning and characterization of a cDNA of *cro r1* from the white pine blister rust fungus *Cronartium ribicola*. *Fungal Genetics and Biology* 35, 53-66.

*Note: If you would like a copy of any of the above publications, contact Pat Skyler (916) 454-0817, pskyler@fs.fed.us.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2-5 September 2002. Methodology of Forest Insect and Disease Survey in Central Europe, Krakow, Poland. Contact: Michael McManus, (203) 230-4321, Email: mlmcmanus@fs.fed.us or visit their website at <http://iufro.boku.ac.at/iufro/iufro.net/d7/wu70310/krakow/>.

12-15 September 2002. California Urban Forest Conference – Planning California’s Urban Forests, Visalia, CA. Sponsored by California Urban Forests Council and California ReLeaf. Contact: Mel Johnson, (415) 647-4207, Email: caufc@attbi.com or Martha Ozonoff, (916) 557-1673, ext. 12, Email: martha.ozonoff@tpl.org or visit their website at http://www.caufc.org/happenings_091202.html.

23-25 September 2002. Fourth Annual California Statewide Weed Management Meeting, Woodland, CA. Contact: Steve Schoenig (916) 654-0768, sschoenig@cdfa.ca.gov or visit their website at http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/phpps/ipc/weedmgmtareas/2002%20Meeting/2002_agenda.html.

5-9 October 2002. National Convention, Society of American Foresters, Winston-Salem, NC. Contact: Mike Murphy, Fax (301) 897-3690, murphym@safnet.org, or visit their website at <http://www.safnet.org/calendar/natcon.htm>.

7-11 October 2002. ^(Revised dates) 50th Annual Meeting of the Western International Forest Diseases Work Conference, Powell River, B.C. Canada. Contact: John Muir, Fax: (250) 387-8740, Email: john.muir@gems1.gov.bc.ca or visit their website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/technology/wif/index.html>

11-13 October 2002. California Exotic Pest Plant Council Symposium, Sacramento, CA. For information visit their website at <http://caleppc.org/symposia/02symposium/symposium2002.html>.

22-23 October 2002. Aquatic Weed School 2002, UC Davis, CA. Learn about the biology, ecology, and management of important aquatic weeds and algae. All methods of practical management including mechanical, biological, cultural, and chemical will be discussed. Contact: Kitty Schlosser (530) 752-7091, Email: wric@vegmail.ucdavis.edu or visit their website at <http://wric.ucdavis.edu/education/aquaticweedschool02.html>.

24-27 October 2002. Ninth Annual Meeting of The California Society for Ecological Restoration, Kings Beach, CA. Contact: Susan Clark (661) 634-9228, smclark@lightspeed.net or visit their website at http://sercal.org/2002_conference.htm.

27-30 October 2002. Invasive Plants – Global Issues, Local Challenges, Chicago Botanic Garden’s Annual Conservation Symposium, Chicago, IL. Contact: Dr. Kay Havens (847) 835-8378, Email: khavens@chicagobotanic.org.

3-7 November 2002. Annual Gypsy Moth Review, Niagara Falls, Canada. Contact: Patricia Cuglietta (613) 225-2342, Email: cuglietta@inspection.gc.ca.

6-9 November 2002. Methyl Bromide Annual Conference, Orlando FL. Contact: Methyl Bromide Alternatives Outreach, (559) 447-2127 or visit their website at <http://www.mbao.org/>.

7-9 November 2002. Spray Efficacy Research Group (SERG) workshop, Niagara Falls, Canada. Contact: Patricia Cuglietta (613) 225-2342, Email: cuglietta@inspection.gc.ca or visit their website at <http://www.sergreport.net>. (Held in conjunction with the 3-7 November Annual Gypsy Moth Review)

17-20 November 2002. Entomological Society of America Annual Meeting, Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Contact: ESA, 9301 Annapolis Road, Lanham, MD 20706-3115, (301) 731-4535, Email: esa@entsoc.org or visit their website at http://www.entsoc.org/annual_meeting/2002/index.html.

21-22 November 2002. 51st Annual Meeting of the California Forest Pest Council, Sacramento, CA. Contact: Brian Barrette (916) 332-5617, Bbarre5812@aol.com, or visit their website at http://www.caforestpestcouncil.org/events_&_field_tours.htm.

16-18 December 2002. Sudden Oak Death Science Symposium, Monterey, CA. Contact: Rick Standiford, (510) 643-5428, standifo@nature.berkeley.edu or Pat Shea, (530) 758-5078, pjshea@davis.com or visit their website at <http://danr.ucop.edu/ihrmp/sodsymposium.html>.

20-23 January **2003**. California Weed Science Society Conference, Santa Barbara, CA. Contact: Lars Anderson (530) 752-7870, Bruce Kidd (909) 698-3081, Pam Knoepfli (775) 626-7470 or visit their website at <http://www.cwss.org>.

11-13 March **2003**. Western Society of Weed Science Annual Meeting, Poipu Beach, Koloa, HI. Contact: Wanda Graves (510) 790-1252, Email: Wgraves431@aol.com or visit their website at http://wsweedscience.org/events/event_detail.php?eventID=10.

8-10 April **2003**. [4th National Integrated Pest Management Symposium](#), Indianapolis, IN. Contact: Elaine Wolff, (217) 333-2881, Fax: (217) 333-9561, Email: ipmsymposium@ad.uiuc.edu

21-28 September **2003**. XII World Forestry Congress, Quebec, Canada. Contact: 1 (418) 694-2424, Fax: 1 (418) 694-9922, Email: sec-gen@wfc2003.org or visit their website at <http://www.wfc2003.org/>.

3-8 November **2003**. 7th International Conference on the Ecology and Management of Alien Plant Invasions, Miami, FL. Contact: tkoop@fig.cox.miami.edu or visit their website at <http://www.bio.miami.edu/iiirm/emapi7/>.

CALL FOR ARTICLES

Please forward to me all articles, meeting announcements, publications, reports, or other items of interest that you would like included in the next issue of Short Subjects & Timely Tips for Pesticide Users. Please include the name, State, and telephone number of the individual who can be contacted for further information:

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The Washington Office, Forest Health Protection, Forest Health Technology Enterprise Team sponsors, compiles, edits, and distributes this informal information letter as a means of providing current information to forestry pesticide users. Recent copies can be viewed online at <http://www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/pesticide/news.htm>. Comments, questions, and items of input are welcome and may be sent to Pat Skyler, Editor, USDA Forest Service, Remote Sensing Lab, 1920 20th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, or by E-mail: pskyler@fs.fed.us. Reference to a commercial product or source in this information letter does not constitute endorsement by the USDA Forest Service. Information should be verified by contacting the original source of information as neither the editor nor the USDA Forest Service guarantees the accuracy of the information provided in this information letter. Pesticides can be injurious to humans, domestic animals, desirable plants, and fish or wildlife if they are not handled or applied properly. Use all pesticides in accordance with label precautions.

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