PESTICIDE PRECAUTION STATEMENT

THIS PUBLICATION REPORTS RESEARCH INVOLVING PESTICIDES. IT DOES NOT CONTAIN RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THEIR USE, NOR DOES IT IMPLY THAT THE USES DISCUSSED HERE HAVE BEEN REGISTERED. ALL USES OF PESTICIDES MUST BE REGISTERED BY APPROPRIATE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL AGENCIES BEFORE THEY CAN BE RECOMMENDED.

CAUTION: PESTICIDES CAN BE INJURIOUS TO HUMANS, DOMESTIC ANIMALS, DESIRABLE PLANTS, AND FISH OR OTHER WILDLIFE--IF THEY ARE NOT HANDLED OR APPLIED PROPERLY. USE ALL PESTICIDES SELECTIVELY AND CAREFULLY. FOLLOW RECOMMENDED PRACTICES FOR THE DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS PESTICIDES AND PESTICIDE CONTAINERS.

TREATING OR FUMIGATING THE SOIL

W. T. Green, Florida Division of Forestry

Our most effective treatment of the soil was realized by using methyl bromide (MC^2) at the rate of 1 pound per 100 square feet. The area was tarped and the tarp left on for 24 hours, or longer. The 20-foot x 100-foot tarp is very difficult to handle; however, we get complete coverage and outstanding treatment.

We paid approximately $600 per year for tarps, as they only lasted one season. The total cost for materials and labor at that time (1965 and before) was $335 per acre.

In the early spring of 1969, the Florida Agricultural Supply Company working with WSR Incorporated of Petersburg, Virginia 23803, worked out an agreement with the Florida Division of Forestry to put in a study at the Andrews Nursery using Agel MB-68. They applied the Agel MB-68 with their equipment at $19.25 per gallon, or $385 per acre. We prepared the soil for the study as follows: (a) cut and recut until all lumps and turf were gone, and (b) provided optimum soil moisture conditions. The material was applied at 20 gallons per acre (one bed of slash got 35 gallons per acre). There was no noticeable difference in the seedlings; however, the grass and weeds grew more rapidly.

We planted slash and sand pine on the area, sowing the slash beds to the South of the area that had been treated with Vorlex and sand pine to the North. The seed were sown at the same rate on both treatments. The seedlings of both species grew with a nicely balanced top and root system.

For our current 1970 crop, we purchased the Agel MB-68 at 11.70 per gallon and applied it with our nursery equipment at the rate of 20 gallons per acre. For a cost of S450 we converted the nursery fumigating machine to apply the Agel MB-68. (The machine was previously adapted for Vorlex),

The Agel MB-68 was applied using eight chisels on 12-inch centers. This covered 84 inches at one pass. The chisels were set 7 inches deep, We used a Number 63 orifice and ran the tractor at 3.5 miles per hour, We could not use the regular screens we had been using with liquids, without getting clogged; so we took all the fine screens out and left the cones the screens covered to help break up the Agel MB-68. We operated at an air tank pressure of 50 pounds, 30 pounds at the Agel containers, and 15-20 pounds manifold pressure. It was also necessary to install a large cleanout strainer, which could be serviced at random.

We treated all our soil for the 1970 crop. To date (July 23, 1970) the entire crop is coming along fine. We sowed for 35 to 40 million, which at this writing looks very promising,