

# **Systems Approach to Pest Management Practices - Potted Foliage**

**Farm Bill Update  
Cooperating Nurseries  
August 2, 2012  
Part 2**

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**Systems Approach to Pest Management  
Practices - Potted Foliage**

**August 2, 2012**

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Hilo, HI**

# AGENDA

- ◆ Status of Pest Concerns at Cooperating Nurseries.
- ◆ Confirming Pest Identification. (see Part 1)
- ◆ Current Pest Management Strategies.
- ◆ Updates on Pest Control Strategies.
- ◆ The Next Step: Developing Integrated Pest Management Practices.
- ◆ Discussion and Questions.

## Presenters:

Principal Investigator: Arnold Hara

Jorden Zarders

Susan Cabral

Kris Aoki

Ruth Niino-DuPonte

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

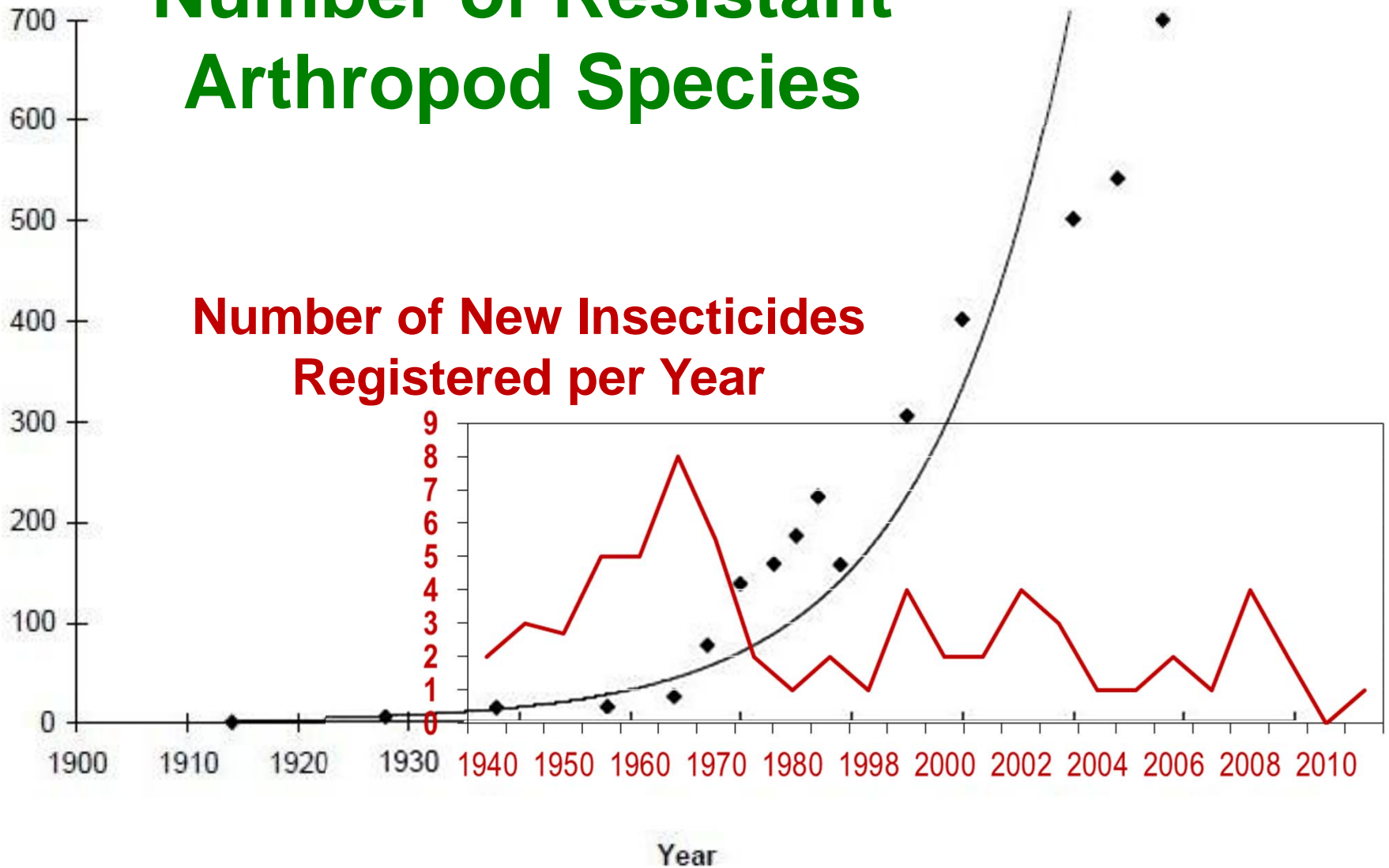
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources

Department of Plant and Environmental Sciences

Komohana Research and Extension Center, Hilo, HI

# Pesticide Rotations to Prevent Resistance

# Number of Resistant Arthropod Species



Sources: J.R.M. Thacker. 2002. An Introduction to Arthropod Pest Management.  
US EPA. 2012. [www.epa.gov/opprd001/factsheets](http://www.epa.gov/opprd001/factsheets)



Insecticide Resistance Action Committee  
[www.irc-online.org](http://www.irc-online.org)

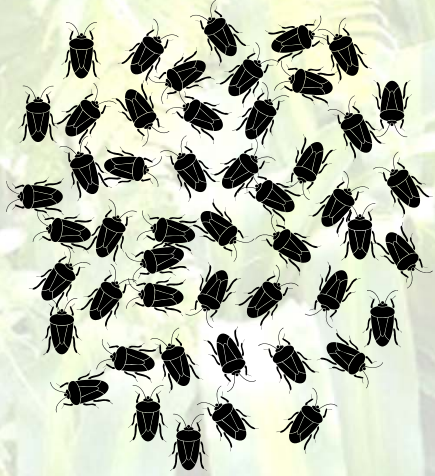
**Purpose:** Established in 1984 to prevent or delay the development of resistance in insect and mite pests

### **What is resistance?**

a **genetic change** in the sensitivity of a pest population, which is **passed on** to the next generation, that results in **repeated failure** of the product to achieve control **as expected** when used **according to the label** for that pest species.


# DEVELOPING RESISTANCE TO PESTICIDES

**1** First few applications kill nearly all pests



**3** While some are still killed by the pesticide, more individuals survive and multiply

Numbers of beneficial insects may also be reduced by the pesticide, which can contribute to higher numbers of pests.

**2** A random mutation allows a few individuals to survive (  ) and reproduce



Individuals



**Group 1: Acetylcholinesterase (AChE) Inhibitors** (1A Carbamates, 1B Organophosphates)

**2**

**3**

**4**

**5**

**6**

**7**

## Mode of Action Classification

# IRAC

Insecticide Resistance Action Committee

### The Key to Resistance Management

More information on IRAC and the Mode of Action Classification is available from: [www.irac-online.org](http://www.irac-online.org) or [enquiries@irac-online.org](mailto:enquiries@irac-online.org)

**8**

**9**

**10**

**11**

**12**

**13**

**14**

**15**

**16**

**17**

**18**

**19**

**20**

**21**

**22**

**23**

**24**

**25**

**28**

**29**

Classes 1-6, 9, 14, 19, 22, and 28 (Yellow) target nerves and muscles.  
 Classes 7, 10, 15-18, and 23 (Blue) target growth and development.  
 Classes 12, 13, 20, 21, 24 and 25 (Red) interferes with energy metabolism.  
 Classes 8, 11, and 29 have miscellaneous modes of action.

# How can I avoid causing resistance?

## IRAC Resistance Management Strategy

- Rotate among **different classes** of chemicals with **different Modes of Action**
- Use the **same** insecticide for **2 or 3 applications** depending on the specific pest's generation time before switching to another chemical. Do not wait until insects become resistant before switching to another chemical or may cause insects to develop resistance to multiple classes of chemicals.
- Incorporate other **non-chemical** control methods (physical, cultural, biological) to manage insect pests.

## Commonly Used Pesticides by Nursery Cooperators

Group	Primary Target Pests	Chemical Group	Active Ingredients	Trade Names
1A	Caterpillars, soft scales, Thrips	Carbamates	Carbaryl	Carbaryl
		Carbamates	Methiocarb	Mesuroil
1B	Aphids, Caterpillars, Mealybugs, Ants, whiteflies, Fungus Gnats	Organophosphate	Dimethoate	Dimethoate
		Organophosphate	Chlorpyrifos	Dursban
		Organophosphates	Acephate	Precise
		Organophosphates	Mercaptomethyl	Imidan
		Organophosphates	Acephate	Orthene
		Organophosphates	Acephate	Acephate 97 UP
		Organophosphates	Chlorpyrifos	Lorsban
3A	Aphids, Caterpillars, Mealybugs, Thrips, Mealybugs, Thrips, Scales	Pyrethroid	Cyfluthrin	Decathlon
		Pyrethroid	Cyfluthrin	Discus
		Pyrethroid	Bifenthrin	Talstar
4A	Aphids, Whiteflies, Grubs, Scales, Mealybugs, Thrips, Caterpillars, Midges	Neonicotinoids	Imidacloprid	Merit 75 wp
		Neonicotinoids	Imidacloprid	Marathon
		Neonicotinoids	Imidacloprid	Provado
		Neonicotinoids	Imidacloprid	Merit
		Neonicotinoids	Dinotefuran	Safari
5	Caterpillars, Mites, Thrips	Spinosyns	Spinosad	Conserve
6	Mites, Thrips Mites	Avermectins	Abamectin	Abamectin E. Pro 0.15 EC
		Glycosides	Abamectin	Avid
7A	Imported Fire Ants	Juvenile Hormone Analogues	Methoprene	Extinguish
		Juvenile Hormone Analogues	Methoprene	Tango
7B	Fungus Gnats, Shore Flies	Pyridine insect growth regulator	Pyriproxyfen	Distance
10A	Mites	Tetrazines	Clofentezine	Ovation
11B2	Caterpillars	Biopesticide	Bacillus thuringiensis, subsp. Kurstaki	Dipel
12B	Mites	Organotin miticides	Fenbutatin-oxide	Promite
13	Mites, Thrips, Fungus Gnats, Foliar Nematodes, Caterpillars	Pyrroles	Chlorfenapyr	Pylon
16	Mealybugs, Whiteflies	Buprofezin	Buprofezin	Talus
20A	Imported Fire Ants	Hydramethylnon	Hydramethylnon (s-methoprene)	Extinguish Plus
		Hydramethylnon	Hydramethylnon	Amdro
23	Aphids, Leafhoppers, Mealybugs, Psyllids, Whiteflies, Mites	Tetronic acids	Spirotetramat	Kontos
		Tetronic acids	Spirotetramat	Movento
25	Spider Mites	Carbazate	Bifenazate	Floramite
UN	Slugs, Snails	Aldehyde	Metaldehyde	Slugfest, Deadline, Metarex
UN	Mites, Mealybugs, Aphids	Oils	Petroleum oil	PureSpray, Ultra-Fine

# Granular Insecticide in Plant Media

# CALCULATING BIFENTHRIN GRANULAR INSECTICIDE INCORPORATION INTO POTTING MEDIA



Andrew Kawabata August 2, 2012  
University of Hawaii CTAHR-CES



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Animal and  
Plant Health  
Inspection  
Service

Program Aid No. 1904

## Imported Fire Ant 2007:

Quarantine Treatments for Nursery  
Stock and Other Regulated Articles



[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/plant\\_health/content/printable\\_version/IFA2007.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/plant_health/content/printable_version/IFA2007.pdf)

## Approved pesticides for quarantine treatment for Fire Ant Treatment in nursery stock per USDA Plant Protection Section

- **Bifenthrin** – Talstar, Up-Star, Bifenthrin Pro, Brigade, Capture, Zipac, etc.
  - 0.2% Active Ingredient
  - Incorporation of granular insecticide into Potting Media
- ~~Dursban~~ – No longer available
- Diazinon
- Fipronil – available only to Pest Control Operators
- Hydramethylnon (Amdro bait)
- Methoprene (Extinguish bait)
- Pyriproxyfen (Distance bait)
- Tefluthrin (Force – Restricted Use/? Granular)

## Application Directions from the Up-Star label

Up-Star Nursery Granular is approved under the USDA Plant Protection Imported Fire Ant Quarantine Certification Program when used in accordance with USDA guidelines. Use the recommended application rates given in the table below to obtain the length of control required for certification.

Pest	USDA IFA Certification Period (months)	Application Rate (ppm)	Potting Media Bulk Density (pounds per cubic yard)*				
			200	300	400	500	600
Imported Fire Ant	0 to 6	10	1	1.5	2	2.5	3
	7 to 12	12	1.2	1.8	2.4	3	3.6
	13 to 24	15	1.5	2.25	3	3.75	4.5
	continuous	25	2.5	3.75	5	6.25	7.5

\*Bulk Density = laboratory determined dry weight of a unit volume of potting media



## Calculating Bifenthrin (Talstar/Up-Star/etc.) for Potting Media Incorporation

- **Step 1: Bulk Density Determination**
  - Bulk Density = dry weight of a unit volume of potting mix
  - Laboratory determination available through UH ADSC
- **Submit a potting media sample to UH ADSC**  
875 Komohana St. – Bldg. C Lab 4
  - ~2 cups in a clean plastic bag
  - \$7.00 diagnostic cost (S3)
  - Cost of samples – covered by Systems Approach project (see Susan)

## Calculating Bifenthrin (Talstar/Up-Star/etc.) for Potting Media Incorporation

- Step 2: Conversion of UH ADSC Bulk Density results
- Results provided in g/ml (need to convert to lbs./yd<sup>3</sup>)
- Conversion factor:

$$1 \text{ gm/ml} = \mathbf{1,685.555} \text{ lbs./yd}^3$$

Example #1: 100% Coir has a bulk density of 0.064 g/ml

$$0.064 \text{ g/ml} \times 1,685.555 = 107.88 \text{ lbs./yd}^3$$

(dry wt. of Coir/yd<sup>3</sup>)

## Calculating Bifenthrin (Talstar/Up-Star/etc.) for Potting Media Incorporation

- Step 3. Use the table provided or the equation on the label to calculate amount of bifenthrin to add to 1 cubic yard of potting media.

- $$\text{Lbs. /yd}^3 \text{ of Bifenthrin} = \frac{\text{Bulk Density (lbs./yd}^3) \times \text{ppm}^* \text{ (Label App. rate)}}{2,000}$$

\*ppm (parts per million): Use 25 ppm for “Continuous” control (see table)

Example for 100% Coir media:

- $$\begin{aligned} \text{Lbs. /yd}^3 \text{ of Bifenthrin} &= \frac{(\text{Coir}) 107.88 \text{ lbs./yd}^3 \times 25}{2,000} \\ &= 1.35 \text{ lbs. of Bifenthrin to 1 cu yd coir media} \end{aligned}$$

## Calculating Bifenthrin (Talstar/Up-Star/etc.) for Potting Media Incorporation

### Example #2:

- Cinder/Peat (3:1) mix has a bulk density of 0.240 g/ml
- Conversion:  $0.240 \times 1,685.555 = 404.5332 \text{ lbs/yd}^3$
- Equation:  $\frac{404 \text{ lbs/yd}^3 \times 25 \text{ ppm}}{2,000} = 5.05 \text{ lbs. of Bifenthrin/yd}^3$

## Application Directions from the Up-Star label

Up-Star Nursery Granular is approved under the USDA Plant Protection Imported Fire Ant Quarantine Certification Program when used in accordance with USDA guidelines. Use the recommended application rates given in the table below to obtain the length of control required for certification.

Pest	USDA IFA	Application	Potting Media Bulk Density (pounds per cubic yard)*				
			200	300	400	500	600
Certification	Period	Rate	(lbs. UP-Star Nursery Granular per Cubic Yard)				
	(months)	(ppm)					
Imported Fire	0 to 6	10	1	1.5	2.4	2.5	3
	7 to 12	12	1.2	1.8	2.4	3	3.6
Ant	13 to 24	15	1.5	2.25	3.75	3.75	4.5
	continuous	25	2.5	3.75	5	6.25	7.5

Double check calculations with table values: For cinder/peat mix with **bulk density of 404**, our calculation of **5.05 lb bifenthrin per cubic yard of media** is consistent with table value (5 lb for bulk density of 400)

\*Bulk Density = laboratory determined dry weight of a unit volume of potting media

Incorporating Talstar G  
(bifenthrin) into  
media for little fire ant  
and root mealybug  
control.



Potting plants with  
Talstar incorporated  
in media. Treatment  
was very effective.

## Calculating Bifenthrin (Talstar/Up-Star/etc.) for Potting Media Incorporation

- Costs

- Talstar \$1.32 / lb.

- Up-Star \$1.32/lb.

- If the Cinder/Peat calculations require 5 lbs./cu. yd.

5 lbs. of bifenthrin X \$1.32/lb.

the cost per cu. yd. = \$6.60 /cu. yd.

- or approximately **\$0.22 per 3 gal. pot**  
(based on 30 pots per cu. yd)

# Insecticide Trials





**African Snails**



**Semi- slugs**

## Slug and Snail Trials



**Cuban Slugs**



**Garden Slugs**

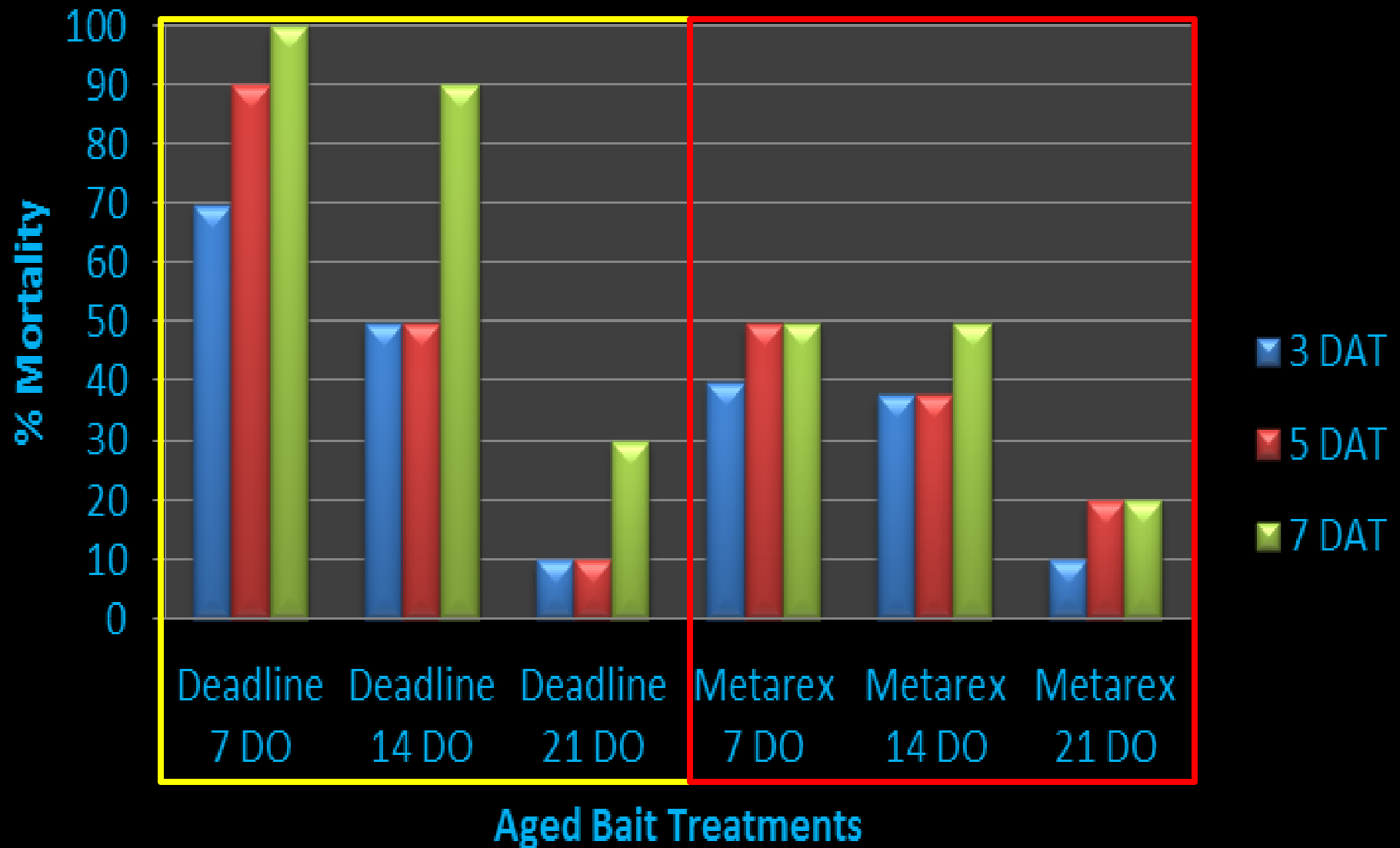
## Controlling Slugs and Snails with Baits

- ❖ Metarex and Deadline were effective in controlling African snails, Cuban slugs, garden slugs, and semi-slugs as fresh deposits (both products contain 4.0% metaldehyde).
- ❖ These baits remained effective when they were weathered\* 1, 4, or 7 days before being used (\*exposed to rain, sun).
- ❖ Baits that were weathered longer (14 and 21 days) had moderate (<40% dead) to no effect on the slugs or snails (Deadline label for ornamentals recommends applying baits every 3-4 weeks).

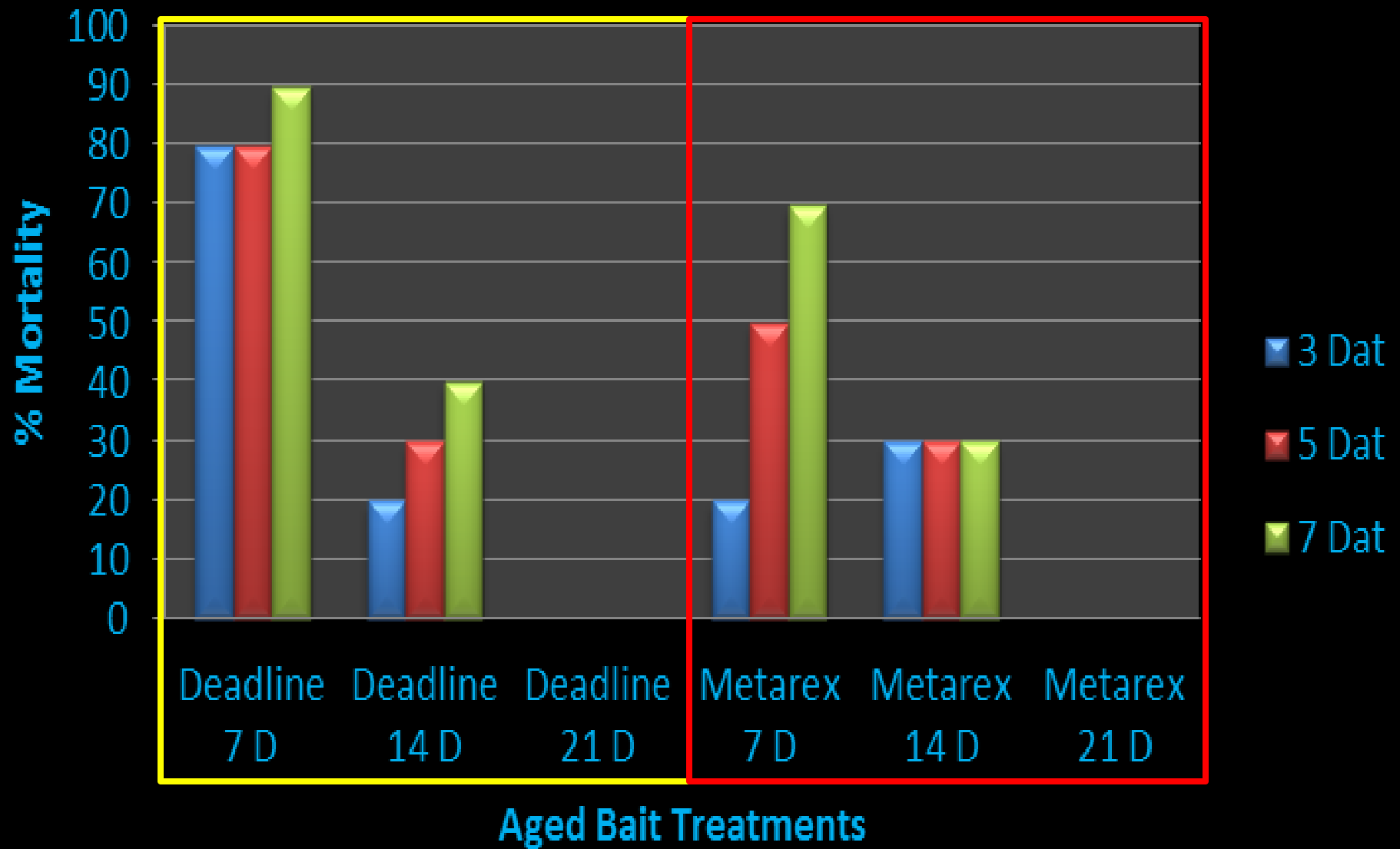
## Weather Data During Aging Process

- ❖ During the “aging process” baits were exposed to natural rainfall under shade house conditions.
  - ❖ 7 Day Old (DO) baits received 3.9” of rainfall.
  - ❖ 14 DO baits received 5.2” of rainfall.
  - ❖ 21 DO baits received 13” of rainfall.
- ❖ The average temperature was 76°F with an average high of 82°F and an average low of 69°F.

# % Mortality Cuban Slug



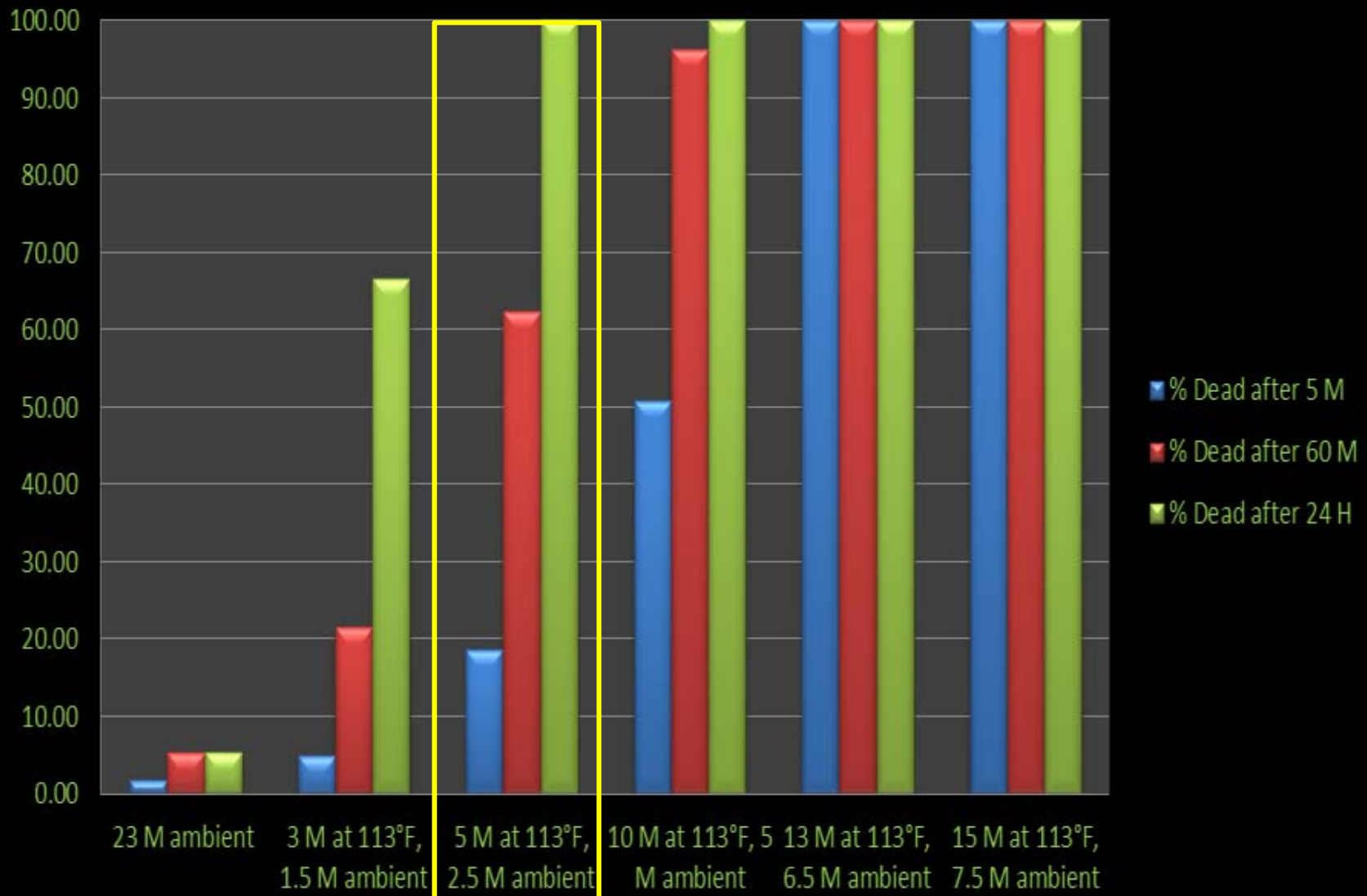
# % Mortality African Snails



## Controlling Slugs with Hot Water

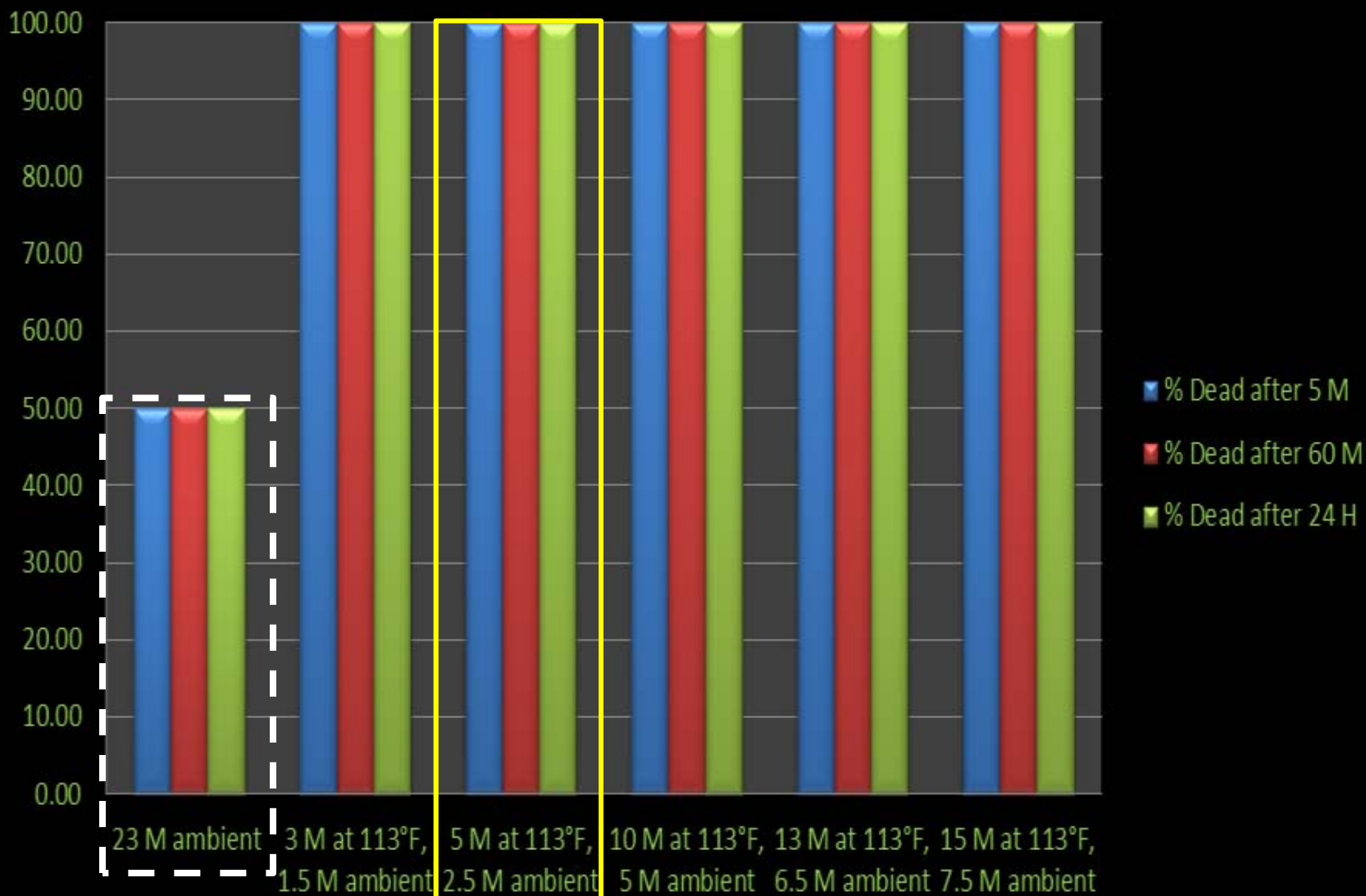
- ❖ Hot water treatments were tested to determine how effectively they would control slugs pre-shipping.
- ❖ Cuban, garden and semi-slugs were exposed to hot water treatments (113°F) for 3, 5, 10, 13, or 15 minutes with cool down in ambient temperature water (72°F) for half the hot water treatment duration (1.5, 2.5, 5, 6.5, and 7.5 minutes respectively).
- ❖ As a control, slugs were also exposed for 23 minutes to ambient temperature water (equivalent to length of the longest hot water treatment, including cool down) to make sure death was due to heat treatments and not drowning.
- Next steps include testing heat treatments within the hot shower chamber containing a full load of plants.

# Cuban Slug % Dead



Current coqui frog treatment

# Garden Slug % Dead

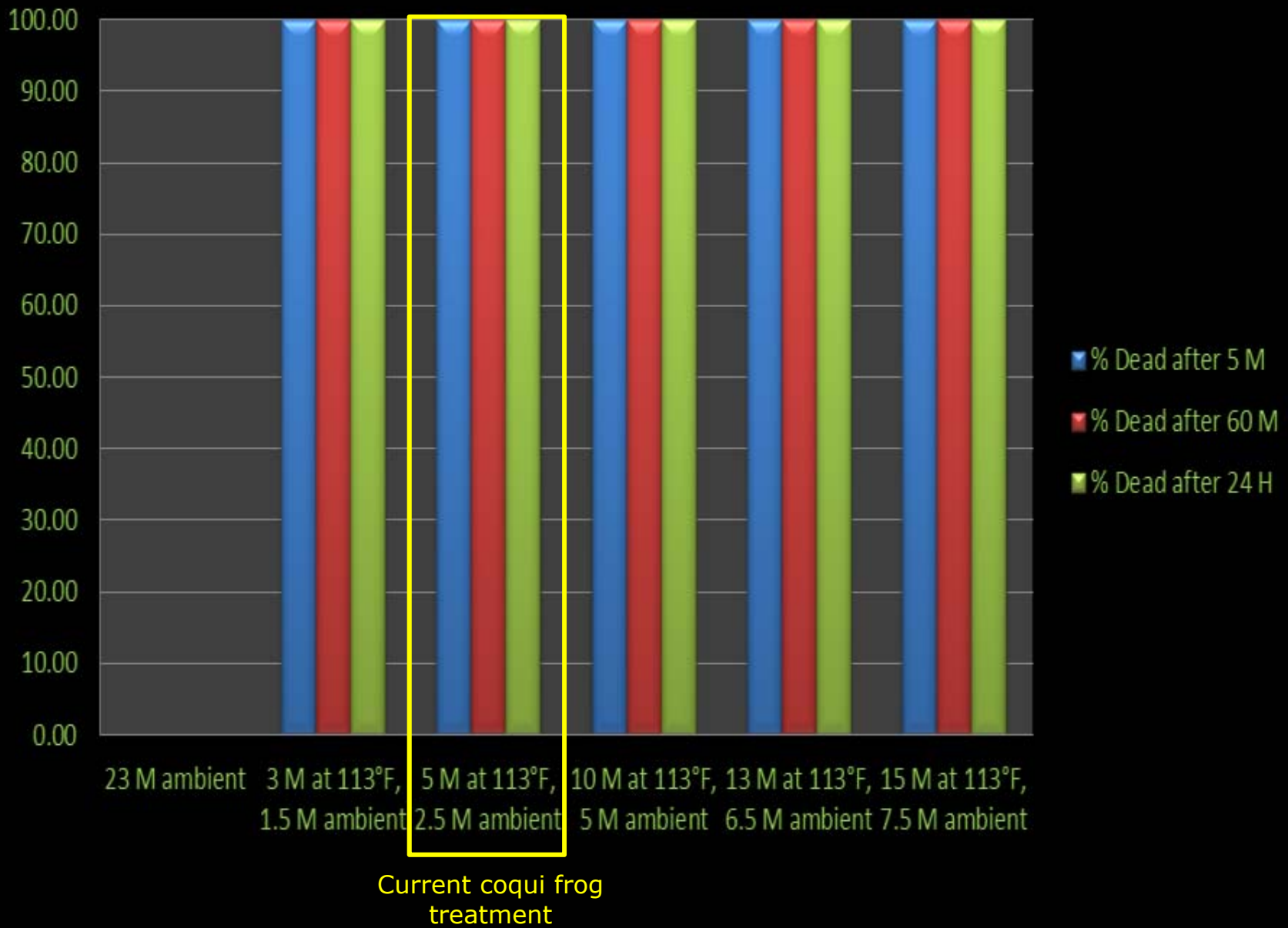


Half of the control slugs were killed by soaking in ambient temp water

Current coqui frog treatment



# Semi-Slug % Dead



# Controlling Little Fire Ants



## Active Ingredients:

1.00% Hydramethylnon, similar AI to Amdro & Probait  
Mode of Action: Disrupts energy metabolism.

**Maxforce Complete** granules contain a bait matrix combining sugars, proteins (including silk worm pupae), fats and oils, which accommodate insects' changing nutritional needs.

Ants (Acrobat, **Argentine**, **Big Headed**, **Carpenter**, Cornfield, Field, imported and native Fire, **Ghost**, Harvester, Odorous House, Pavement, **Pharaoh**, Thief)

Maxforce® Complete Brand Granular Insect Bait is a ready-to-use product for use indoors and outdoors and around buildings, on lawn, and other non-crop areas: (including school yards, playgrounds, golf courses, and ornamental nurseries).



Active Ingredient:

Hydramethylnon 0.36%

Methoprene 0.25%



Active Ingredient:

0.73% Hydramethylnon



Bait Attraction in a Plot with Little Fire Ants  
(no other species present)

1 Hour  
after  
placement



Control  
(Peanut Butter)



MaxForce Complete  
1.00% hydramethylnon

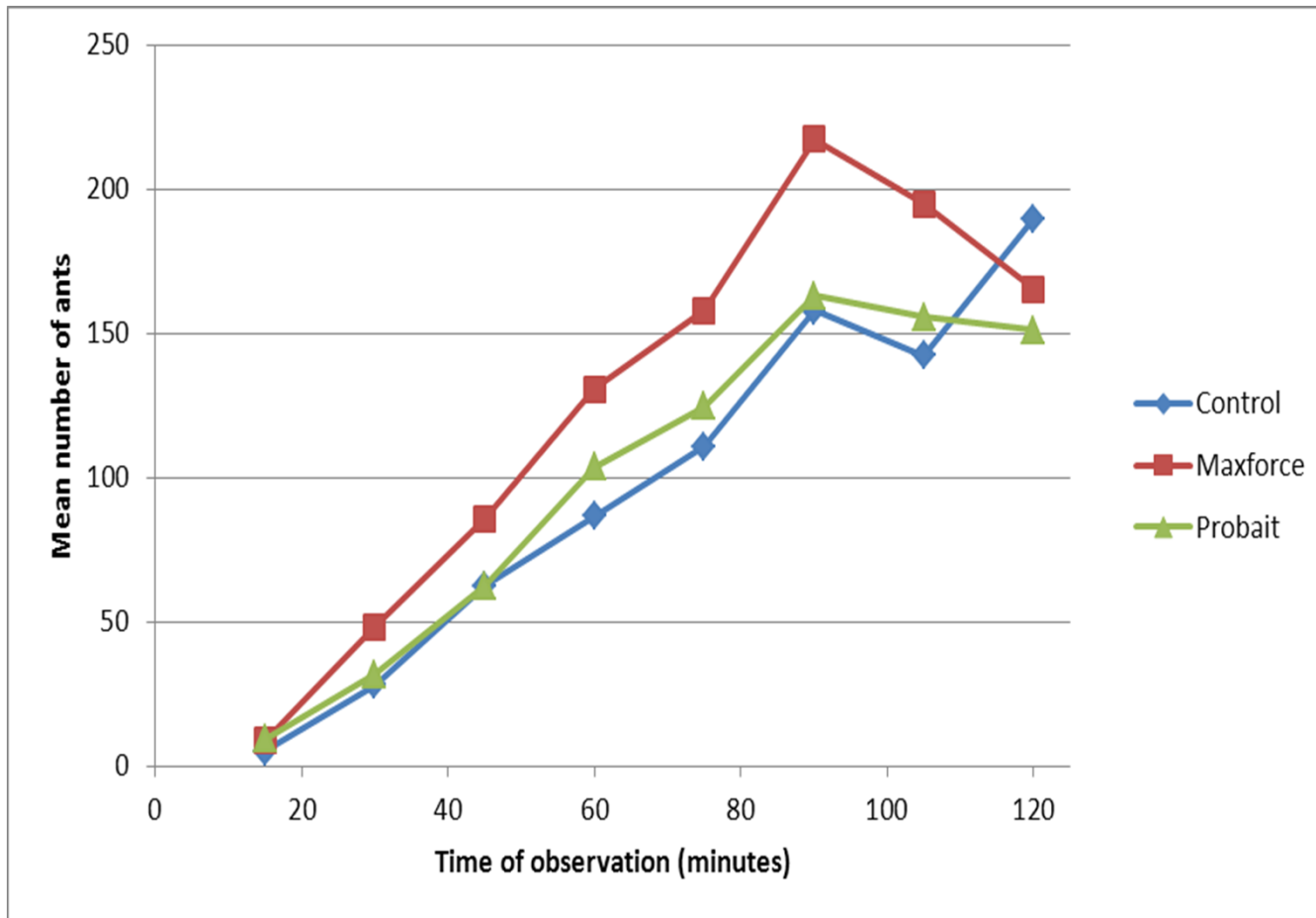


Pro bait  
0.73% hydramethylnon

2 Hours  
after  
placement



## Number of little fire ants attracted to hydramethylnon baits over time



More LFA tended to be attracted to Maxforce formulation than Probait or peanut butter for most of the 2 hours of observation.

# Attractiveness of peanut butter, Pro bait, Extinguish Plus & Extinguish Professional to LFA



Peanut butter



Pro bait  
0.73% hydramethylnon



Extinguish Plus 0.36%  
hydramethylnon + 0.25% S-methoprene



Extinguish Professional  
0.50 % S-methoprene

Least attractive to  
LFA possibly due to  
2x methoprene than  
Extinguish Plus



## LITTLE FIRE ANT CONTROL

- \* Maxforce Compete, Pro bait/Amdro (hydramethylnon) & Extinguish Plus (hydramethylnon + methoprene, insect growth regulator) are most effective.
- \* Esteem (pyriproxyfen, IGR ) is labeled for tropical fruit crops.
- \* Arboreal colonies in trees are difficult to control (bait must be in trees)
- \* Tango (methoprene) mixed with vegetable oil and xanthan gum (emulsifier and thickener) can be applied in trees (Vanderwoude).
- \* Talstar granular and liquid effective as a residual contact/barrier treatment.
- \* Termidor (fipronil, PCO only, for building perimeter) is effective.

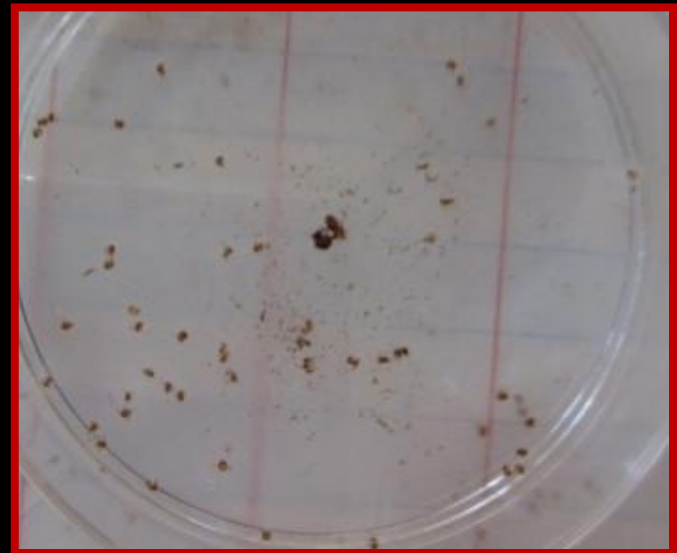
Untreated

Extinguish Plus

(0.365% hydramethylnon & 0.25% S-methoprene)



**Nest Activity  
7 WAT**



# Tango bait formulation for arboreal LFA colonies

3 cups warm water

2 cups corn oil or other vegetable oil

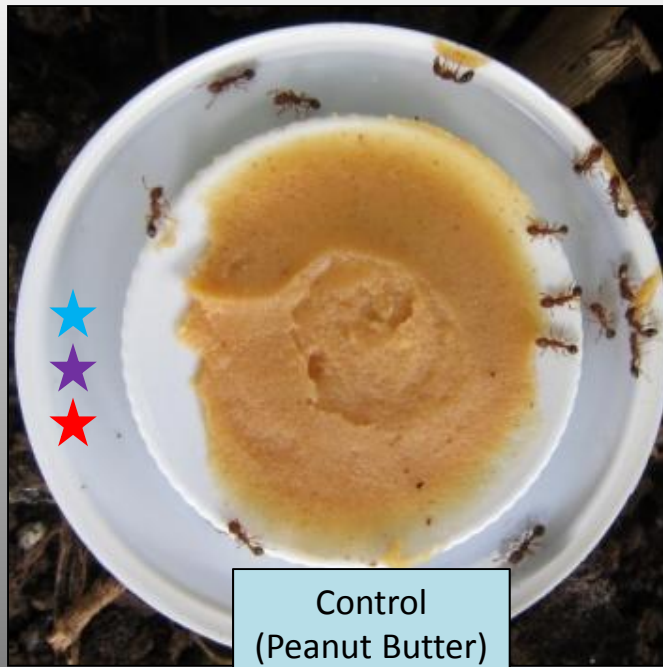
4 Tbsp Tango (methoprene)

1 Tbsp xanthan gum

Formulation will have the consistency of mayonnaise. Apply with hand-held sprayer up into trees.

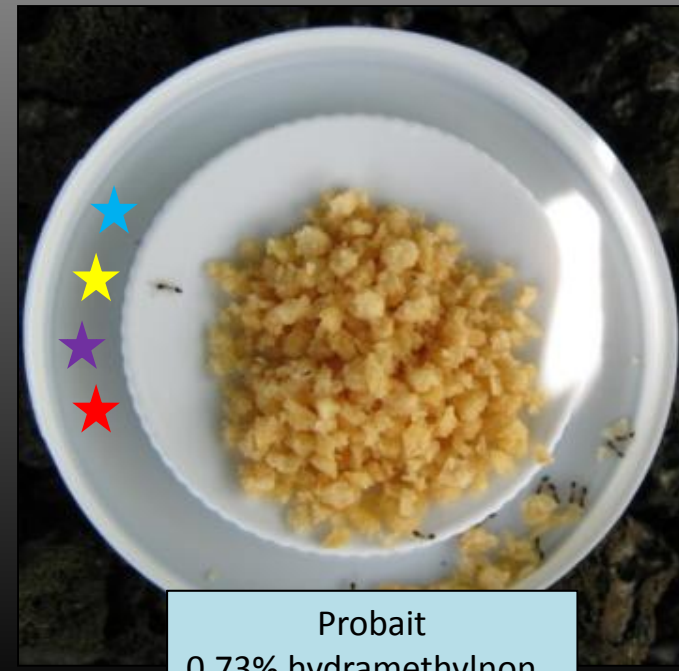
Bait Attraction in a Plot without Little Fire Ants  
(other species present)

1 Hour after  
placement



**Ants attracted to baits:**

- ★ *Monomorium floricola*  
floral ant
- ★ *Plagiolepis alluaudi*  
little yellow ant
- ★ *Pheidole moerens*
- ★ *Tetramorium bicarinatum*





Control  
(Peanut Butter)

1 Hour after placement

**Ants attracted to baits:**

- ★ *Anoplolepis gracilipes*  
long legged ant
- ★ *Monomorium floricola*  
floral ant
- ★ *Plagiolepis alluaudi*  
little yellow ant
- ★ *Pheidole moerens*  
ghost ant
- ★ *Tapinoma melanocephalum*  
ghost ant
- ★ *Tetramorium similliumum*



Pro bait  
0.73% hydramethylnon



Advion  
0.05% indoxacarb

*Pheidole moerens* was  
attracted to all baits

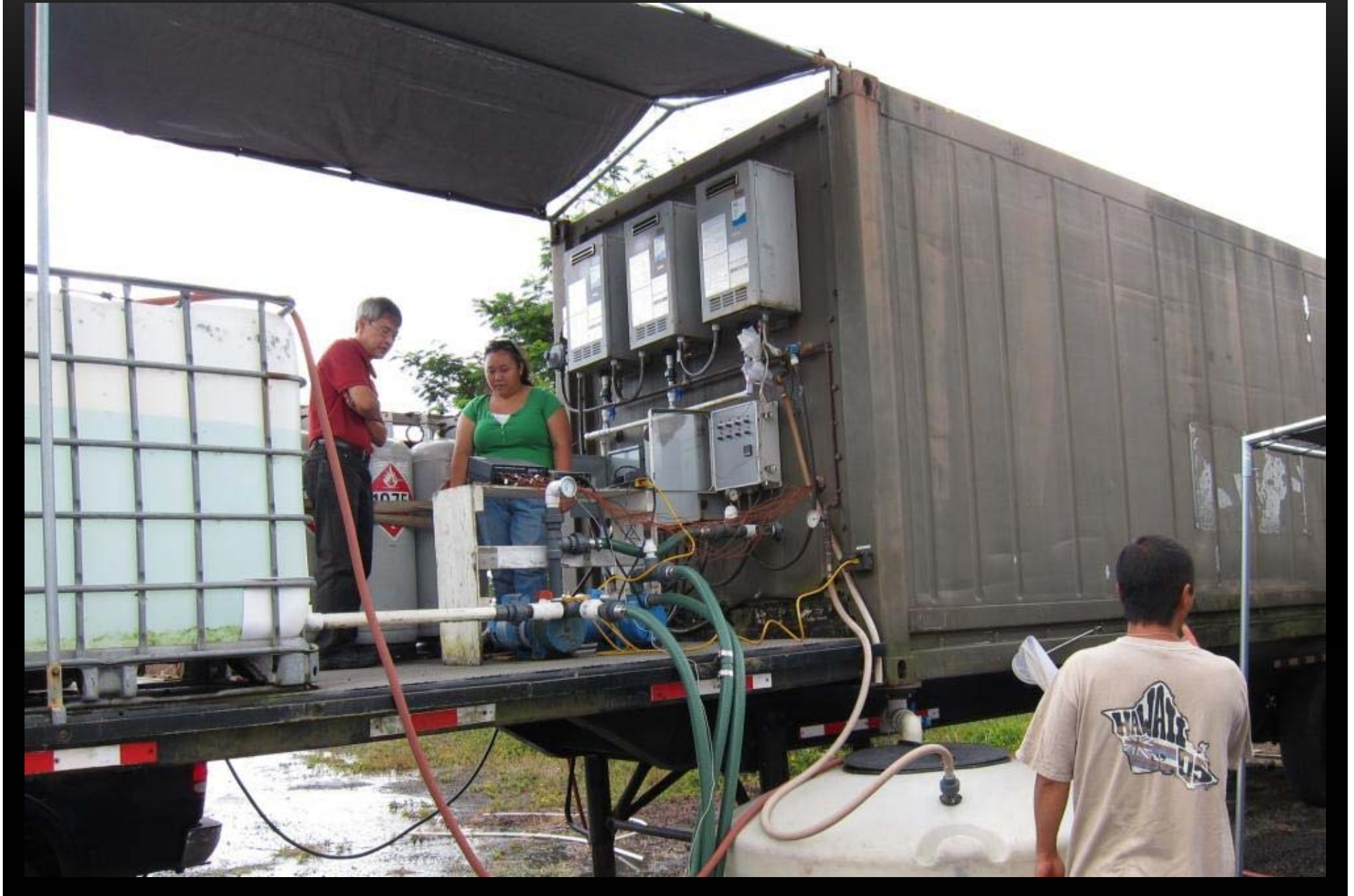
Peanut butter did not  
attract the little yellow ant  
or *Tetramorium  
similliumum*



Optigard  
0.01% thiamethoxam

**Systems Approach to Pest Control:  
Using Hot Water**

## The Original Portable Hot Shower Chamber



## Modification: Stationary, Drive-Through Hot Shower Design





Adaptation: Small scale hot water "srench" to dislodge coqui frogs and eggs from potted plants



Ecotemp L10 tankless water heater



**Modification: Nozzles in hot shower chamber directed with hoses to drench pots and media**

# Generating Steam to Sterilize Cinder Media



Large-scale (truck load)



(Media cart load)



Coming soon...



...the new hot water shower chamber

# *Maʻaalo!*



**Systems Approach to Pest Management  
Practices - Potted Foliage  
2008 Farm Bill - Section 10201  
Arnold H Hara**