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DDE Levels in Migratory Songbirds

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DDE LEVELS IN MIGRATORY SONGBIRDS. Christie Ragle, Jeff Frick*, and Given Harper* Department of Chemistry, IWU

Although DDT has been banned in the United States since 1972, it is exported to other countries where it is used extensively as a pesticide. Population declines in North American migratory passerines (songbirds) have been observed, and could possibly be caused in part by high DDE levels obtained at winter migration areas in Central and South America. Brain tissue from migratory passerines will be extracted, and baseline DDE levels will be measured using gas chromatography/electron capture detection.

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