

University of Nebraska - Lincoln

DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Wildlife Damage Management Conferences --
Proceedings

Wildlife Damage Management, Internet Center for

2013

Benefits of Rhodamine B in Monitoring Mammal Populations

Taylor Fraychak
Clemson University

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/icwdm_wdmconfproc

Fraychak, Taylor, "Benefits of Rhodamine B in Monitoring Mammal Populations" (2013). *Wildlife Damage Management Conferences -- Proceedings*. 178.

http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/icwdm_wdmconfproc/178

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Wildlife Damage Management, Internet Center for at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in Wildlife Damage Management Conferences -- Proceedings by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

Benefits of Rhodamine B in Monitoring Mammal Populations

Taylor Fraychak

School of Agricultural, Forest and Environmental Sciences, Clemson University, Clemson,
South Carolina

ABSTRACT: When used in non-lethal doses the biomarker Rhodamine B may offer distinct benefits in monitoring and studying animal populations. This orally delivered fluorescent dye has been shown to persist for several months in hair and can be detected by exposing fur samples to specific wavelengths of light. The dye has recently been used to determine consumption of baits for efforts such as vaccination and contraceptive administration. In a project being conducted on the Clemson University campus, Rhodamine B is being used as a biomarker to assess the effectiveness of DiazaCon™ as a contraceptive in gray squirrels. Future research with Rhodamine B should involve identifying long term effects of the dye on animal behavior and survival, as well as environmental impact.

Key Words: biomarker, contraception, DiazaCon™ , gray squirrel

Proceedings of the 15th Wildlife Damage Management Conference.
(J. B. Armstrong, G. R. Gallagher, Eds). 2013. Pp. 132.