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Highlights of the Seventh Eastern Pine and Meadow Vole Symposium

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SEVENTH EASTERN PINE AND MEADOW VOLE SYMPOSIUM

The Seventh Eastern Pine and Meadow Vole Symposium was held at the Cliffside Inn, Box 786, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, March 3-4, 1983 for the purpose of assessing the current status of research, extension, and industry programs relating to vole damage to fruit trees. The meeting was held to provide a problem solving atmosphere in which growers, governmental agencies such as EPA, USDA, USDI, the chemical industry, and university personnel could observe the current thrusts of research and extension programs and their impact on future control strategies.

By the 1983 meeting, much of the data collected as a result of the USDI contract monies with several state universities was summarized. A wide spectrum of information was presented on control of damage, economic threshold populations, animal behavior, physiology, nutrition, reproduction, and population dynamics. The meeting provided an excellent opportunity for various research groups to interact and to assimilate the meaning of current research programs. Arrangements were made by Dr. Roger S. Young, Research Pomologist, who is stationed at the West Virginia University Experiment Farm, Kearneysville, WV.

In all, the Seventh Eastern Pine and Meadow Vole Symposium was probably one of the most important symposia to date. The quality of the presentations was impressive and data represented useful and much needed information. What was more gratifying was the productive exchange of information and ideas which went on "after hours" between the researchers, extension personnel, growers, and chemical representatives throughout the symposium. The cooperative spirit of those involved in vole biology research, damage control and the support offered by USDI funding was certainly responsible for increased understanding of the vole control problem.