



NIGHT SOIL & SPUTUM REVIEW

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Monitoring Migrant Camps - An Eye Opening Experience

Welcome -
To the new EHSA
newsletter
Editor and general slave
to the President
Holly Young

Monitoring Migrant Camps - An Eye Opening Experience

By Tony Martinez

This was a very rewarding summer for me. I had the great opportunity of working with migrant workers throughout Northern Colorado. When Dr. Buchan first hired me for the job back in April, I never thought I would learn so much, meet so many people, and get so emotional. I worked under the supervision of Sarah Bramble, an Industrial Hygienist consultant and Ed Hendickson, director of SALUD Medical Clinic.

I monitored the sanitation of fourteen migrant camps throughout this summer. I didn't even know there were migrant camps in Colorado, before this summer. The closest one to the CSU campus is just six miles east on Highway 14. I made up a check list that included ten items, such as rodent control, trash and pesticide storage. Throughout the summer I filled out four checklists for each camp to monitor the progress, or in some cases the run down of the camps. I did not fill out check lists for all the camps because some of the owners would not let me on their land. They thought I was Big Brother and did not realize I was only there to help them so Big Brother would not come and inspect their camp.

I tested the water at each camp about five different times. All the water was okay except at one camp, Hudson. Hudson had bacteria in the water, resulting from a cracked cap on the well. I continually told the owner he must fix this problem or his men were going to get very sick. This is how I handled all environmental hazards. I would identify the hazards and constantly bring it to the owner's attention until the problem was taken care of. Not every problem was fixed but a few were.

The toughest parts of this job were the language barrier and getting so emotional.

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"I feel a lot was accomplished this summer but there is so much more to do."

College Council Spend Tech Fee

Every semester all the students in the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Science are required to pay a \$50 Tech -fee. This fee was voted into existence by the students of the College in the spring semester of 1991. The College Council, which is made up of all the students in the College and elected officers, has the responsibility of spending these fees. Any member can submit a proposal for how they feel the fees should be spent, and it is then voted on by the council according to the merit of the proposal. All students who have attended at least 2 counsel meetings are eligible to vote on the proposals. Currently EHSA has submitted a proposal for \$15,000+ to be used to purchase lab and testing equipment for EH courses, especially EH312/313. At the request of EHSA, this list of equipment was put together by Dr. Blehm, the director of undergraduate studies, who works tirelessly to improve our program. It is our request that all students take an active interest in this

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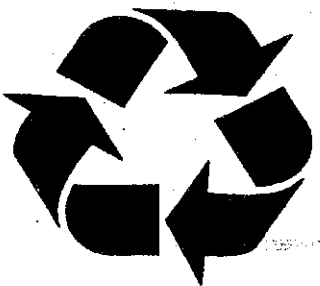


Watch for Dave Ufferfilge's column -
"I Don't Know"
coming next month

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"Education wants to empower people, that is, move them towards that space in themselves that would be called visionary, committed, responsible, audacious and courageous."

Werner Erhard



MIGRANT CAMPS

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If I could speak Spanish, this job would have been so much easier, it might not have been as much of a challenge though. I can remember all the times I drove up to a camp and wondered how in the world am I going to tell these people I am here to take a water sample. I have a very soft heart when it comes to kids. I asked a six year old boy at one of the camps if he had any toys and he said no. After all, his parents only made a dollar for every gunny sack of pickles they picked. I felt so bad because I could remember when I was six years old and I had tons and tons of toys to play with. So I went to an indoor flea market and bought all kinds of toys for the children at this camp. If you could have seen their smiles you would have done the same thing.

I could go on and on talking about this summer but I wanted to try and summarize what I did. I kept a daily journal so if you would like to know more about what I did this summer, feel free to go over to the Vet Science building and flip through it. I feel a lot was accomplished this summer but there is so much more to do.

All of us at EHSa would like to congratulate Tony Martinez on the great job he did this summer. As president I would like to encourage all the students to stop by the Vet Science Building and look through Tony's journal it will be well worth your time.

Mike

(Continued from page 1) Tech Fees

process in order to build a stronger undergraduate program in EH. College Council begins reviewing proposals on October 20th and voting is to begin the 27th. Keep in mind that you are required to attend two meetings to be eligible to vote.

EHSa

INTERNSHIPS EVALUATED

POTLATCH'S IDAHO PULP and PAPERBOARD DIVISION

by Joseph P. Kiss

My internship at Potlatch's Idaho Pulp and Paperboard Division in Lewiston for the most part was a rewarding experience. The projects were challenging and a great deal of knowledge was gained from conducting the survey research in order to perform the surveys. Although, I was forced to conduct surveys alone since Mr. Kluzik (Corporate CIH) is an extremely limited asset to the corporation. This was difficult on occasion because when I questioned my work in the field no one could provide the answer, but it forced me to rely on my best judgment based on my previous intern and college courses. And if that lead to the wrong answer I could go back to the safety coordinators offices (Mr. Shuey and Mr. Wulf) and ask them and/or research the question and resurvey if necessary. However, I learned a great deal which will be useful in the near future as a starting industrial hygienist, but I feel more would have been gained on my part with some supervision in the field. Regardless, the surveys I completed were very rewarding due to their industrial nature and types of contaminants sampled. In the following paragraphs these surveys are summarized.

In the maintenance painter department I conducted an audit of the paint inventory and material safety data sheets and cross referenced the inventory with the standardized MSDS's on the database in the environmental department. It was discovered that the database did not list at least 50% of the MSDS's audited. Also, a survey was conducted on their new spray booth in order to provide a visual indicator on the booth's manometer to show the pressure drop at which the filters require replacement. Finally, personal (eight hour time weighted average) sampling was conducted to determine painters exposures to total pain mists and various hydrocarbons (and mixtures specific to individual target organs). In this survey I learned a lot about ventilation combined with combustible materials and charcoal tube sampling which is a necessity for an industrial hygienist.

An additional survey added to my agenda was sampling for chlorine in the mill water of the pulp dryer area. The contaminant was confirmed (by detector tube and a direct reading instrument) to be chlorine dioxide coming from the number two paper machine.

The next project was the recaust area, which was the most extensively surveyed and included sampling for calcium carbonate, total dust, calcium oxide, sodium hydroxide, formaldehyde and non-condensable gases (mercaptan, sulfur dioxide and hydrogen sulfide). The simplified process of the recaust area is the production of white liquor by combining green liquor from the recovery boilers with hot lime from the lime kilns where the non-condensable gases are burned to activate the lime. In this survey it was discovered why an industrial hygienist cannot always recommend changing a process since they are so complex and on such a massive scale.

The personnel which operate the 84 inch rewinder were monitored for noise exposures and their results all came back above the action limit (85 dBA 8 hour time weighted average), thus, it is required for them to be in a