

1994

Annual Report Summary, 1994/5

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OVERSEAS TRAVEL, July 1994

With CRDC permission, the travel award was transferred from Dr Skerritt to Ms A Hill, the diagnostics project leader; there was, however, not a change in itinerary. The major activities undertaken were: attendance at the Eighth IUPAC International Congress of Pesticide Chemistry (Washington, DC, USA; July 4-9) and a visit to the laboratories of Prof Bruce Hammock and Dr Alex Karu (University of California, Davis and Berkeley, respectively; July 11-14). The IUPAC meeting had several sessions that were particularly relevant to our current research on the development of immunoassay kit methods for pesticide analysis in environmental and food samples, including: pesticide dissipation in plants and soil; biotechnology-based analytical methods; ecological risks in relationship to pesticide chemical properties; fate of pesticides in water, soil and air; pesticide binding in soil and sediment; and both current and new methods in residue extraction and analysis in environmental and food samples. We presented a paper describing our work on test kit analysis of endosulfan and metabolites in cotton environments. Attendance at the meeting benefited our work through obtaining first-hand information on synthetic strategies for pesticide-protein conjugates, water and soil sample preparation and extraction for immunoassay. The laboratory visits were especially valuable for research related to our CRDC and Cotton CRC objectives, on development of: synthetic strategies for pesticide-protein coupling, sample extraction and analysis, and establishment of a new method for production of pesticide-specific antibodies, namely the expression of recombinant antibodies in *E. coli*.