

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

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file: Krummrich
Monsanto Fund
contributions

Donations Aid Mosquito Fight

By Robert Goodrich
Of the Post-Dispatch Staff

Metro East communities swamped by spring flooding are getting a boost from the Monsanto Co. and two labor groups in their battle to control the swarms of mosquitoes that are expected to follow.

Russell F. Sackett, plant manager of Monsanto's W. G. Krummrich Plant in Sauget, turned over a check Tuesday for \$19,000 to officials of Caseyville and four riverbottom townships in Madison County.

Caseyville Mayor George Chance said he already knew exactly how his village would use the money. "We're going to buy a new sprayer," he said. "This will not only help us this year, but in years to come."

Most of the money is expected to be used to pay for spraying of low-toxicity insecticides to kill adult mosquitoes and destroy

Monsanto, Unions Giving Assistance

mosquito larvae before they hatch.

In addition to the \$19,000 check, Sackett said, Monsanto would donate \$6,000 worth of its Rodeo herbicide, an "environmentally friendly" chemical used to control weeds that promote mosquito breeding in wet areas.

Neither Madison nor St. Clair County has a countywide mosquito abatement program, and officials said earlier that pest control funds were limited this year despite an expected outbreak of mosquito problems.

Jack Quigley of Madison County's Emergency Management Agency said many bottomland areas are still holding excess water in the wake of spring flooding.

In response to that concern, state Rep. Thomas Holbrook, D-Bellefonte, asked Monsanto for help.

"These areas are not eligible for federal disaster relief funding to address the mosquito problem," Holbrook said. "It provided an excellent opportunity to forge a partnership among local interest for the benefit of the community."

Two labor groups, the Southwestern Illinois Central Labor Council and the Greater Madison County Federation of Labor, also made unspecified contributions for mosquito abatement.

Harold Wright, council secretary, said the union donations could be used as "seed money" in seeking additional private contributions.

(This article appeared in the Belleville edition only.)

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BASF sets sights on Monsanto's styrenics

BASF CONFIRMED last week that it is looking at the purchase of Monsanto's ABS and styrenics businesses which was recently put up for sale (*ECN* 19 June).

Volker Trautz, BASF board member for polymers and fibres, said the firm was analysing the sale details and believed a deal would strengthen BASF's position in North America, where it currently sells only very specialised grades.

In Europe, BASF is adding 25% capacity for ABS at Ludwigshafen by installing new technology, taking total output to 180 000 tonne/year in Germany. Trautz also confirmed BASF's expansion of styrene capacity at Antwerp of 240 000 tonne/year taking production to 500 000 tonne/year.

Part of this additional volume will be snapped out with Huntsman in the US, to help feed BASF's new polystyrene unit in Mexico (page 24).

Huntsman has recently boosted polystyrene in Europe and added terminalling facilities at Carrington, UK, to facilitate import of styrene to the plant.