



Blue Mountain Horticultural Society Annual Meeting

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Walla Walla Watershed Pesticide Monitoring and Stewardship



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Pesticide Stewardship Partnerships: Overview

KEY ELEMENTS OF PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS

- Monitoring for current use pesticides in surface waters from drift & runoff
- Collaborative approach to identify problems and implement voluntary best practices
 - *DEQ, OSU Extension Service, grower groups, watershed councils, soil & water conservation districts, Department of Agriculture*
 - *Alternative to regulatory approach*
- Follow-up monitoring to determine water quality improvements over time



Walla Walla Pesticide Stewardship Partnership

- DEQ and Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council
 - *Monitoring began in March 2005*
 - WWBWC – *water sampling, weather stations, outreach*
 - DEQ – *laboratory analysis, data evaluation & communication*
- OSU Extension Service and BMHS
 - *Best management practice technical assistance, training and implementation*
- Oregon Department of Agriculture – *technical support*
- US EPA – *funding support*



2006-2007 Walla Walla Project Activities

- Added 2 new monitoring locations on Little WW “distributaries” in 2006
- Extension & BMHS technical assistance and outreach:
 - *March 2007 Spray Calibration Workshop*
 - *Promoting alternatives to organophosphates and other best practices*





2006-2007

Walla Walla Project Activities, con't

- Installation of weather station by WWBWC
- July 2007 Ag Pesticide Waste Collection
 - *7,600 pounds of waste pesticides & 3,000 pounds of empty containers*





Pesticide Stewardship Partnerships: Water Quality Results

2007 WALLA WALLA MONITORING: KEY FINDINGS

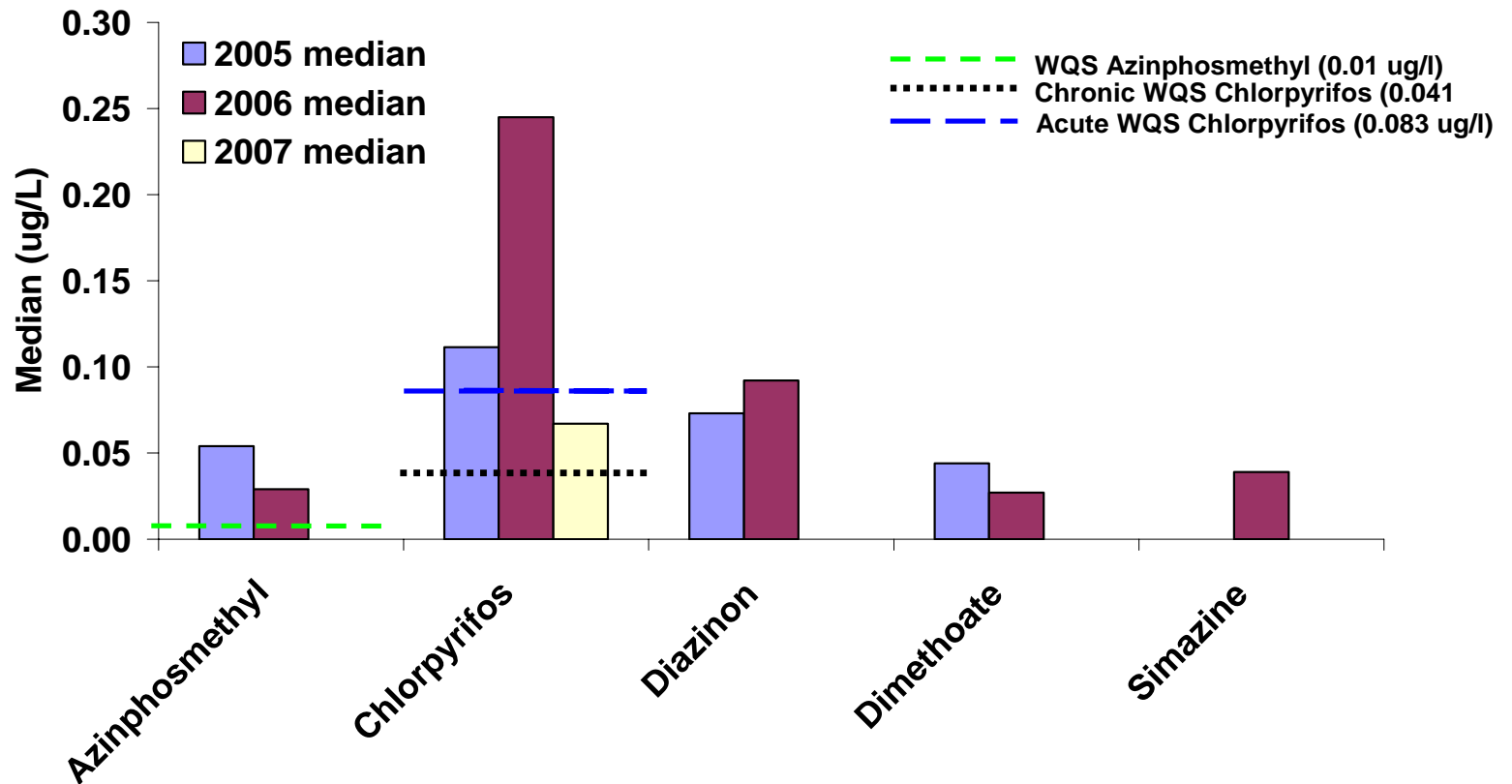
- **Chlorpyrifos** concentrations dropped substantially from 2006 to 2007
 - *median concentrations in the watershed were 67% lower than in 2006*
 - *maximum concentrations were 94% lower.*
- **Diazinon** detections dropped from 10 to 1
- No detections of any pesticides at the E. Little Walla River site (detections found there in both 2005 and 2006)
- No **dimethoate** detections at any sites (multiple detections in 2006)
- No **Azinphos-methyl** detections at one tributary site where detections were consistently found in previous 2 years



Pesticide Stewardship Partnerships: Documenting Improvements

WALLA WALLA: SITE-SPECIFIC RESULTS

Median Pesticide Concentrations:
West Prong Little WW River, N. Stateline Rd.

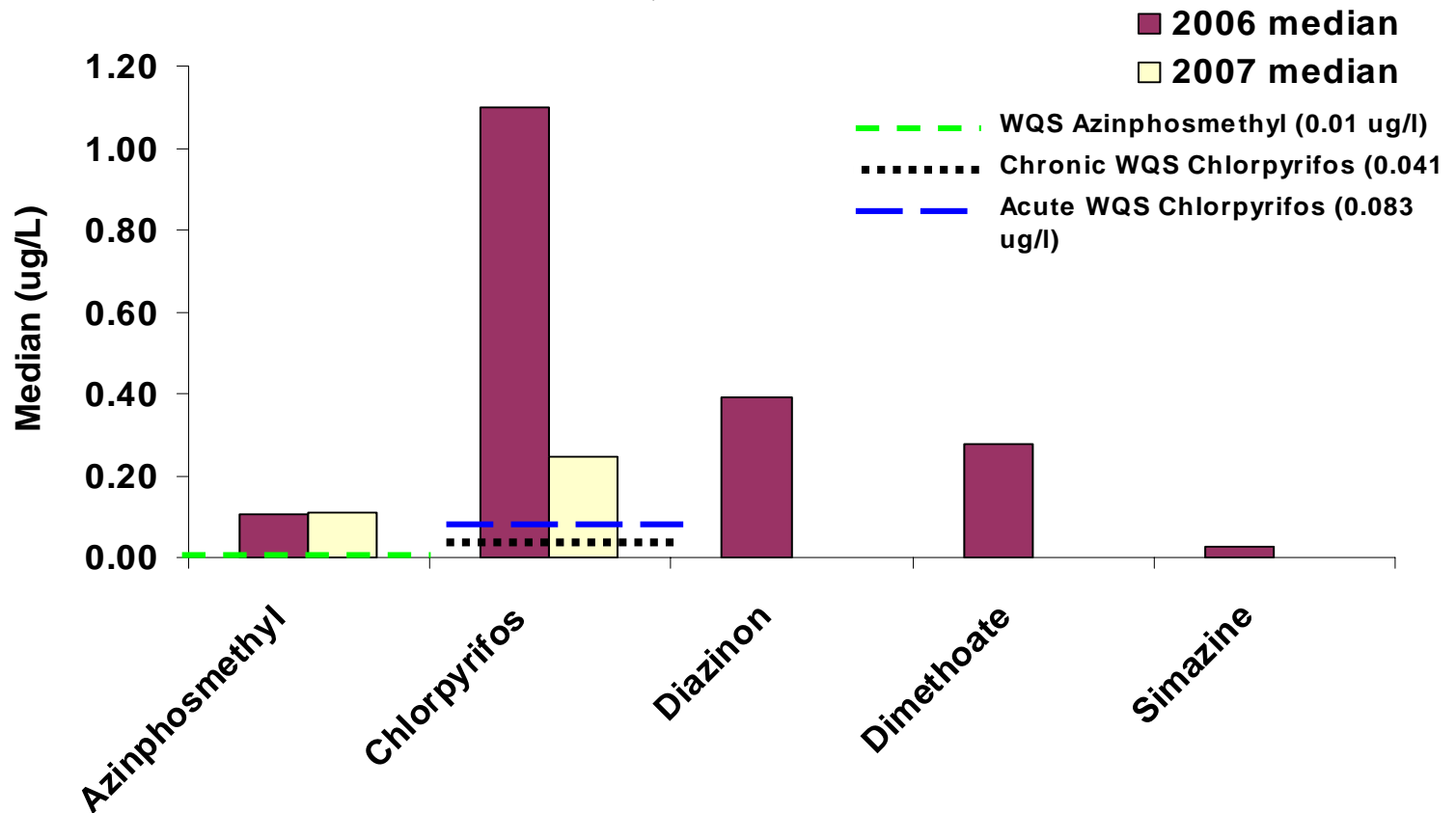




Pesticide Stewardship Partnerships: Documenting Improvements

WALLA WALLA: SITE-SPECIFIC RESULTS

Median Pesticide Concentrations:
Little WW River, West Branch/Crockett





Future Activities and Challenges: 2008 and Beyond

WHAT'S NEXT?

- Goal → Reduce concentrations in the distributaries to below water quality standards
 - *Build on 2007 best management practices*
 - *Additional ideas?*
- Future pesticide monitoring plans
 - *2008 monitoring scheduled to begin in March*
 - *Lower detection limits will provide more data*
- New Opportunities
 - *Funds for additional pesticide waste collection event*
 - *Possible legislative proposal for longer term funding*