



## **PROGRAMMATIC REPORT FORMAT (maximum of 2 pages)**

**Grantee:** University of Central Florida - Dr. John Fauth

**Contract Number:** 05-005R

**Project Title:** Historical and Current Associations between Agricultural Biocide and Fibropapillomatosis in Green Turtles (*Chelonia mydas*)

**Report Period:** 6-month Programmatic Report (May 1, 2005 – November 30, 2005)

**Project Manager(s)/Principle Investigator(s):** John E. Fauth

**Tasks:** determine plasma biocide concentrations in turtles collected from IRL and SWRR from 1989-2004. Identify plasma samples currently maintained in freezers at UCF and the University of Florida. Pool 1 mL samples from up to 15 randomly selected individuals from each site in each year, with separate samples for turtles with and without FP.

**Deliverables:**

1. Interim report detailing the life history characteristics (e.g., curved carapace length, FP status) of turtles included in the pooled blood samples from 1989-2004, and any environmental parameters measured at their points of capture.
2. Update project web site, which describes the project and summarizes its results.

**Accomplishments:** We determined that too few samples existed for us to complete the historical analysis of plasma biocide concentrations. Unfortunately, samples were lost due to power and freezer failures during the last two hurricane seasons, and the remaining samples appear too limited to support our planned chemical analyses. Instead, we propose to return to the other facet of our project (which was removed due to lack of funding) and investigate contemporary plasma biocide concentrations in green turtles inhabiting three sites with dramatically different levels of fibropapillomatosis – Indian River Lagoon, Sabellariid Worm Rock Reef, and Trident Submarine Basin. Samples collected under our previous Sea Turtle License Plate Grant (04-031R) currently are being evaluated for plasma biocides, to test the methodology and support inferences drawn from that study.

To date, just \$474.32 has been spent from Contract 05-005R. We will request an extension of this project to enable us to obtain turtle blood samples from all three sites this summer.