

Calif. tests show no additional well contamination

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — No new pesticides were found in California ground water, according to a recent sampling of 1,556 wells in 30 counties.

The Department of Pesticide Regulation's 6th annual report summarized the results of 49 ground water studies submitted in 1990 and 1991.

Though a valuable record, the report cannot be used to draw firm conclusions about the state's ground water, according to a recent California Environmental Protection Agency press release.

Among the pesticides detected were 2,3,5,6-tetrachloroterephthalic acid (TPA), a breakdown product of the herbicide chlorothal-dimethyl; atrazine, bromacil, diuron, simazine, prometon and molinate, all herbicides; aldicarb sulfone and aldicarb sulfoxide, breakdown products of the insecticide, aldicarb; xylene, an active ingredient in many pesticide formulations and also used as a solvent in gasoline; and orthodichlorobenzene, a soil fumigant that is no longer registered in

California.

If tests reveal contamination above safe levels, immediate action may be taken. Past actions have included revocation of permits to use pesticides, or suspension or cancellation of registration.

For free copies of the report, *1991 Update, Well Inventory Data Base*, are available from the California Department of Pesticide Regulation, Environmental Monitoring and Pest Management Branch, 1220 N. Street, Sacramento CA 95814 or by calling 916-654-1144.

Watering restrictions OK'd

VENTURA, Calif. — The Ventura County Planning Commission approved a proposal tightening watering restrictions on developments in unincorporated parts of the county.

The proposed Farmont Inc. golf course in Ojai Valley would be among the developments affected, according to the Ventura County Star-Free Press. The measure requires developers to calculate future water use, conduct audits to track actual water use and re-

place water-thirsty plants with low-water-use vegetation when limits are exceeded.

The planning commission recommended water usage be calculated at 80 percent of a plant's evapotranspiration rate. Arguments that 80 percent was insufficient were unsuccessful.

Thousand Oaks County will be even more restrictive, setting water usage at just 50 percent of the evapotranspiration rate.

Land problems may temper course expansion

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. — The money is there, but the land may not be.

If control can't be gained of the 14-acre McCallum Preserve next to the city's Golf Club Drive course, planned expansion of the city's golf course from 18 to 36 holes will be cut back to 27 and the existing links upgraded.

The city can't give back any of the \$14 million borrowed in February to finance expansion. The "fallback" plan would force the city to raise green fees to pay off the debt with a smaller-than-planned course.

Franconia GC hopes to repair two holes

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. — The 15th hole at city-owned Franconia Golf Course and the 10th at Veterans Golf Course aren't listed as water holes on the scorecard, but playing regulars disagree.

Always muddy and marshy, is the consensus.

William L. Putnam, Parks Commission chairman, said the commission is pleading with the city to pay about \$240,000 to repair these mud holes. The two courses annually return about \$380,000 in greens fees and other revenue to the general fund. Putnam would like to tap this money to dry up the unwanted water.

Zoning board rejects planned golf course

DURHAM, N. H. — Proposed development of an 18-hole golf course, 300 parking spaces and 14 house lots on the banks of the Lamprey River met unanimous rejection from the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

The board turned down all four zoning variances requested by owner Charles Benevento, Beverly, Mass.

Variance may be granted only if a hardship exists with the land. A financial hardship does not warrant a variance, the zoning board noted.

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