

no pesticides registered for earthworm control. Consequently any application of a pesticide to kill worms would be illegal. Researchers in England, Oregon, and Washington found that incorporating abrasive material into soil reduced the number of worms coming to the surface. We are conducting trials at the USDA's National Wildlife Research Center Ohio Field Station to develop simple procedures to reduce earthworm numbers on runways and taxiways. In lab trials, night crawlers (*Lumbricus terrestris*) have been initially repelled from areas containing phosphate fertilizer, high nitrate fertilizer or a mustard byproduct. Ground mustard mixed with diatomaceous earth also shows promise in reducing the number of earthworms in treated plots. Additionally, when placed on recycled coal slag, the worms have not burrowed into the material but tried to leave the test site. We anticipate field trials to investigate an integrated approach involving products that present both chemical and physical irritants. If a successful combination of products is determined, the number of earthworms crawling onto taxiways and runways could be significantly reduced.

Removal of Feral Cat Colonies from John F. Kennedy International Airport: Operational, Biological and Social Challenges

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Feral cats (*Felis catus*) have been present at John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK) for approximately five years. Feral cats pose several zoonotic health risks, impact native wildlife, and interfere with airport operations. At the request of airport staff, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services conducted a cat-trapping effort between November 2007 and December 2008. Cats were live-trapped and surrendered to local animal control services where they were vaccinated, micro-chipped, and offered up for adoption. Due to the history of the colony, local cat advocacy groups expressed discontent with the removal efforts. The controversial removals draw attention to the need to provide safe travel and work environments while being mindful of public image. Based on the needs and sensitivity of the issue we review viable options for conducting similar removal efforts.