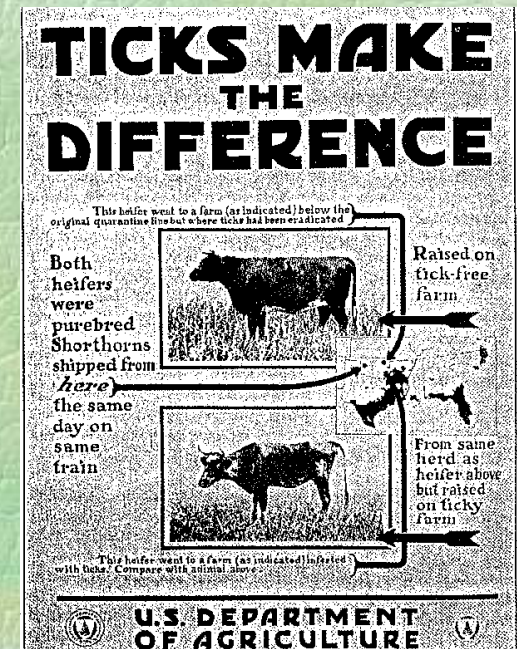


General Information on Florida's Cattle Dip Vats



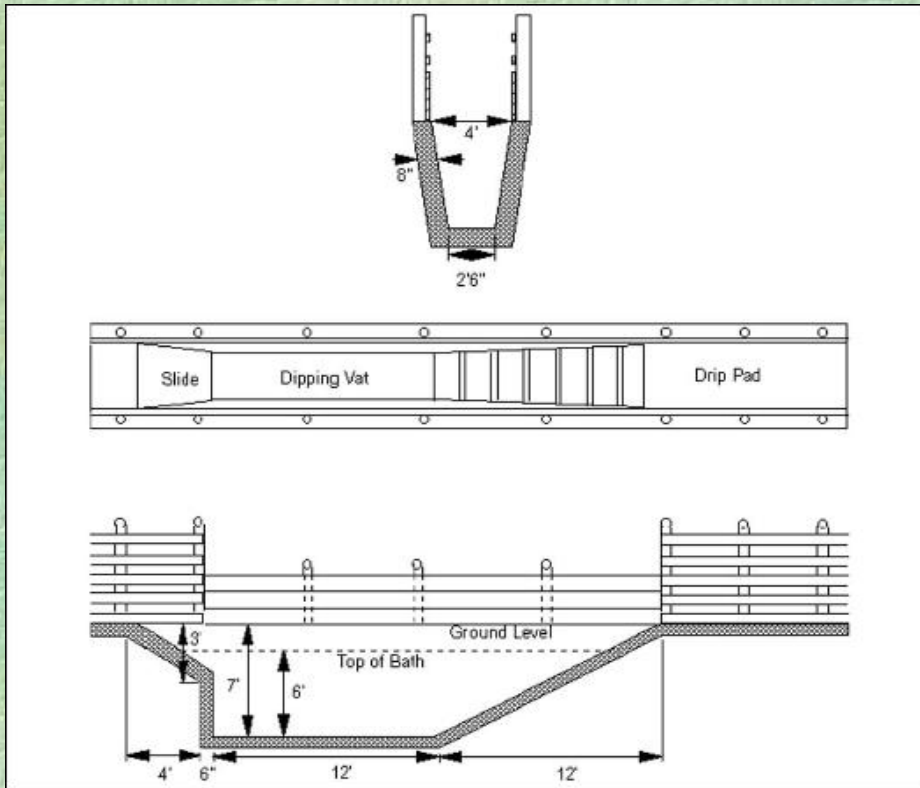
Florida's Cattle Dip Vats

- 1890 - cattle tick fever was causing widespread loss of cattle (all livestock such as pigs, sheep and horses) were susceptible with estimated losses at \$40 million per year
- 1906 - USDA initiated a program to systematically provide for the construction and operation of cattle dipping vats to remove ticks.
- 1928 - interstate shipment of tick-infested cattle was prohibited
- 1939 - last reported major outbreak of tick fever
- 1940 - approximately 3200 vats constructed
- 1961 - last known operating vat in Hobe Sound
- Today - undocumented number of vats that may contain harmful chemicals



Florida's Cattle Dip Vats

- ❓ Vats typically consisted of a long, narrow subsurface trough with concrete walls that extend about 3 feet above the ground that were filled with chemicals to remove ticks.



Cattle Dip Vats Today

- ❑ The majority of the vats are dismantled or undistinguishable, especially with land use changes. However, a few are still visible, as the below pictures indicate:



Cattle Dip Vats Chemicals

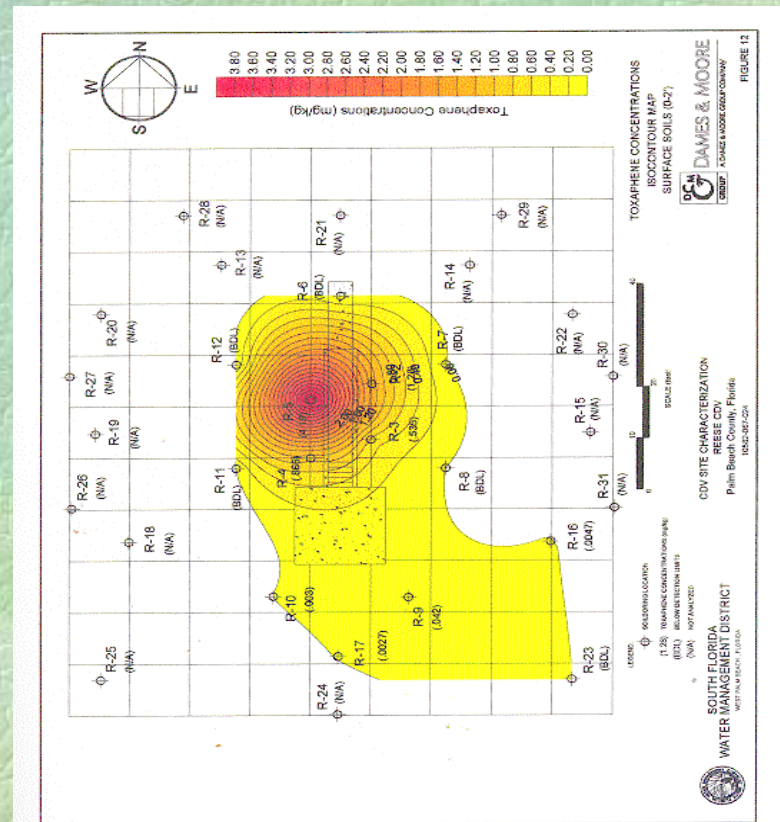
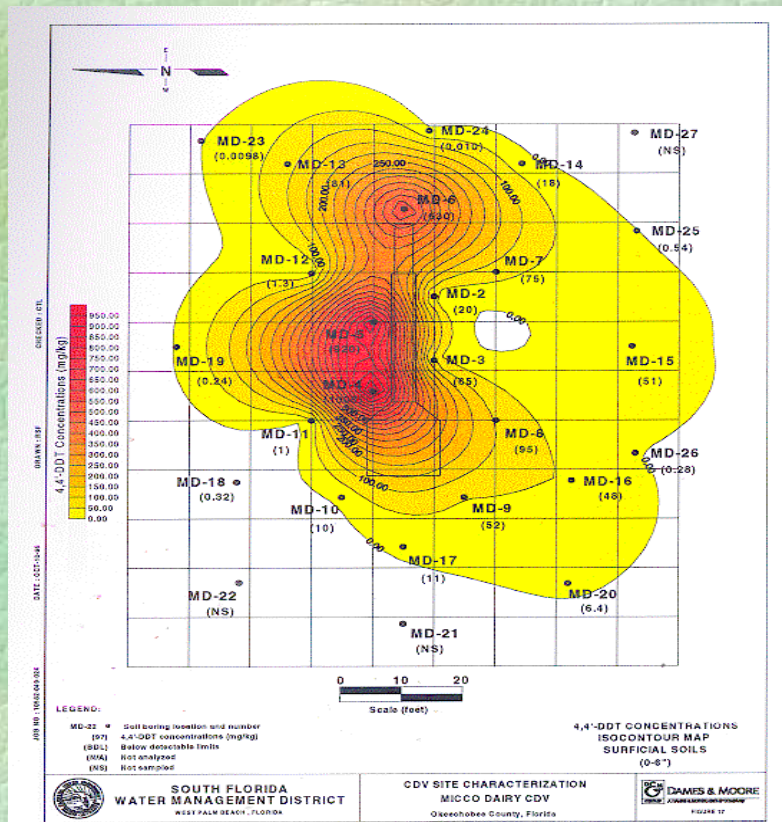
- Any Contact with the chemicals left in the vats or soil near the vats could be harmful to humans or disturbing the soil may cause the previously stationary chemicals to move.

Contaminants of Concern Cattle Dipping Vats

Arsenic	Alpha BHC
Methyloxychlor	Beta BHC
DDT	Delta BHC
DDD	Endrin
DDE	Toxaphene
Heptachlor	Lindane

Cattle Vat Chemical Plumes

Chemicals in the soils in and around the cattle vats have been found to move in plumes 100 - 150' in any direction as shown in the two examples below:



Regulations for Cattle Dip Vats

- Chapter 376, Florida Statutes states that any private owner of property in this state upon which cattle-dipping vats are located shall not be liable to the state under any state law, or to any other person seeking to enforce state law, for any costs, damages, or penalties associated with the discharge, evaluation, contamination, assessment, or remediation of any substances or derivatives thereof that were used in the vat for the eradication of the cattle fever tick
- Pursuant to Chapter 62-777, Florida Administrative Code, the Groundwater Cleanup Target Levels for many of the compounds found in vats are established
- A waste generated during the removal, renovation, or other intrusion into a vat must be characterized to determine if it is a hazardous waste, and handled according to Chapter 63-730, Florida Administrative Code

What to do if you find a Dip Vat?

- ❑ If you locate a vat that is lying dormant, being demolished or and/or disturbed the Florida Department of Environmental Protection requests the following information:
 - ❑ Specific location with latitude and longitude if possible,
 - ❑ Name of landowner and contact information,
 - ❑ Photographs,
 - ❑ Information regarding the future land use,
 - ❑ Descriptions of surrounding land, point of access or entry