THE LIQUID SCINTILLATION COUNTER pictured here is located in the Department of Soils and Plant Nutrition, U.C., Riverside. It is capable of automatic analysis, with printout of pesticide residue data for 200 soil samples at one time. Each sample can be analyzed in about two minutes for one, two, or three different chemical constituents as compared with nearly two hours per sample necessary with previous equipment for such research. Radioactive tracers (such as carbon 14) were used for rapid quantitative analysis of amounts of lindane, DDT, dieldrin, and other chlornitrogen pesticides in the soil samples. The purpose of research involving the counter includes a determination of the volatility of pesticides, and the effects of soil and environmental factors on the movement of chlorinated hydrocarbons through different soils.

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