



Great Lakes Protection Fund

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Funded Project

Developing Procedures for Utilizing a Sex Pheromone to Increase the Efficacy of the Sterile Male Release Program in Control of Sea Lamprey Populations of the Great Lakes

Project No.	575
Timeline	2000 – 2004
Award Amount	\$324,361
Team Leader	Weiming Li, Michigan State University, Liweim@pilot.msu.edu

This team produced two lamprey implants that enhanced the magnitude and duration of pheromone production in tested lamprey (and surrounding water). The male lamprey sex pheromone was identified and synthesized, and pheromone drip experiments generated strong homing response from female lamprey. The team discovered new information about the sea lamprey endocrine system, including the workings of gill release. Biochemical research results—published in the April 2002 issue of *Science*—generated a strong media response including a CNN Sci-Tech news article that aired both on national and international TV, a write-up on CNN's website, multiple requests for interviews and extensive print media coverage.