The recent article about Advion (0.045% indoxacarb) Fire Ant Bait applied as a result demonstration in Overton has led to a flurry of similar questions regarding the product. Let me answer those and provide a little more technical information.

**Question #1 - Is there a retail version of Advion?**
Answer: Oops, should have mentioned that in the article. Yes. Spectracide has recently come out with “Once and Done.” This is a 0.016% indoxacarb bait that is applied at a rate of about 20 pounds per acre, much like Amdro Yard Treatment. A simple calculation will show that this is about five times the active ingredient per acre as Advion. I have tested this formulation in development and it works as well as Advion - foraging suppression within 24 hours, 90+% mound elimination within three days, close to 100% in a week. It is available at Lowe’s, Home Depot, etc., but apparently not Wal-Mart.

**Question #2 - How much does it cost?**
Answer: Once and Done costs about $20 per bag which treats roughly one quarter acre, so $80-90 per acre. Advion costs about $20 per pound ($30 per acre), though there are new discounts for bulk purchases. In other words, about 2.5 times the price of other baits.

**Question #3 - What is the residual?**
Answer: None. It is fed on by the ants, a metabolite of indoxacarb does the work and there is no residual activity whatsoever. Not even any ants (or very few) left to fend off re-invaders. Duration of control is based solely on reinvasion pressure which is dependent on rainfall, temperature, season, carrying capacity and who knows what else. Spectracide’s advertising of season-long control is a bit misleading. You get the season long control by using Once and Done, then treating with their other contact insecticide products.

**Question #4 - Once and Done, Over ‘N Out, What the Heck?**
Answer: Despite the confusing similarity in names, the two products are at totally opposite ends of the fire ant control spectrum. Once and Done/Advion is pure speed and is a bait. Over ‘N Out/TopChoice (fipronil) is a contact insecticide granule that takes about a month to work, but has true residual activity out to about a year. You can apply the two in sequence and I have mixed Advion and TopChoice in the hopper, applied immediately and gotten spectacular short and long term results. It just costs about $275 per acre! DuPont is modifying its label to hint that mixing will work, but is not supported just yet. We are working closely with DuPont on that issue as well as a pasture label.