

MIDDLESEX COUNTY MOSQUITO EXTERMINATION COMMISSION

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Municipalities are encouraged to share this information with all residents in their community

Adult Mosquito Control Product

"Fyfanon"

This **fact sheet** answers some basic questions about a mosquito control product used in your county. The Middlesex County Mosquito Extermination Commission, along with several other resources (listed at the end of this sheet), can provide more detailed information.

What is Fyfanon and how is it used?

Fyfanon is an insecticide product that is recommended for mosquito control in New Jersey by Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. It contains the pesticide malathion. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) "evaluates and registers (licenses) pesticides to ensure they can be used safely", and their current evaluation of products containing malathion shows them to be slightly toxic with minimal potential risk to people when used properly as part of a complete mosquito control program.

Malathion is used for the control of adult mosquitoes in an integrated pest management (IPM) approach to mosquito control. IPM strategy includes habitat management, source reduction, biological control and other measures to control immature mosquitoes, augmented by adult mosquito control when needed. The spraying of adult mosquitoes is called for when biting populations reach critical annoyance levels or when a disease organism is present in adult mosquitoes. A fine mist of malathion is applied during times of peak mosquito activity, since flying mosquitoes must directly contact the pesticide in order for it to be effective.

How can I avoid exposure to Fyfanon?

Risk to the public from the use of Fyfanon is minimal. Avoiding exposure is always the safest course of action, particularly for those that may be at higher risk such as pregnant women, children, the elderly, and those with chronic illnesses. Any possible exposure risk can be reduced by following some common sense actions:

- Pay attention to notices about spraying found through newspapers, websites, automated telephone messages or distributed by municipal, county or state agencies.
- Plan your activities to limit time spent outside during times of potential pesticide treatments, usually at sunset and sunrise.
- Move children's toys out of application areas.
- Move animals and their food and water dishes out of application areas.
- Stay away from application equipment, whether in use or not.
- Whenever possible during spraying, remain indoors with windows closed, window air conditioners set on non-vent (closed to the outside air), and window fans turned off.
- Avoid direct contact with surfaces that are wet from pesticide spraying. Do not allow children to play in areas that have been sprayed until they have completely dried (approximately one hour).
- If you must remain outdoors, avoid eye and skin contact with the spray. If you get spray in your eyes or on your skin, flush and rinse with water.

What are the symptoms of exposure to Fyfanon?

Symptoms of exposure can include headache, nausea, dizziness, excessive sweating, salivation, excessive tearing and a runny nose. The chance of experiencing these symptoms of exposure with proper use is extremely low. You should contact your physician, other medical providers, or the New Jersey Poison Information and Education System (NJPIES) at 1-800-222-1222 if you experience these symptoms following a pesticide spraying. Bring this sheet with you if you visit a physician or other medical provider.

How long will Fyfanon last in the environment?

The Fyfanon spray stays in the air for a short time until it settles out and lands on surfaces. Fyfanon has a low persistence and lasts no longer than 25 days in water and soil. Fyfanon breaks down quickly in sunlight.

Where can I get more information on Fyfanon?

The following are resources for more information regarding Fyfanon and mosquito control in your area (unless otherwise noted, available during normal business hours):

For pesticide-specific information – 9:30am to 7:30pm EST:

National Pesticide Information Center 800-858-7378
<http://npic.orst.edu/>

For pesticide health information and possible exposures – 24 hours:

New Jersey Poison Information and Education System 800-222-1222

For New Jersey pesticide regulations and misuse complaints – 24 hours:

NJDEP Pesticide Control Program 877-927-6337
<http://www.nj.gov/dep/enforcement/pcp/bpo.htm>

For Federal pesticide regulations:

USEPA Region 2 Office of Pesticide Programs 877-251-4575
<http://www.epa.gov/pesticides>

For state-wide mosquito control information:

NJDEP Office of Mosquito Control Coordination 609-292-3649

For local health information:

Your Municipal Health Department-Check your telephone book for the number.

For local mosquito control information:

The Middlesex County Mosquito Commission 732-549-0665
<http://middlesexmosquito.org>

For mosquito control recommendations:

Rutgers University, Department of Entomology 848-932-9774
<http://vectorbio.rutgers.edu/outreach/>