

Draft Primer on Mosquito Control Product

"Scourge®"

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

What is Scourge and how is it used?

Scourge is an insecticide product that is recommended for mosquito control in New Jersey by Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. It contains the pesticides called "Resmethrin and Piperonyl Butoxide." The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) current evaluation considers **Resmethrin and Piperonyl Butoxide**-containing products to be slightly toxic with minimal potential risk to people when used properly as part of a complete mosquito control program.

Scourge is used for the control of adult mosquitoes. While habitat management and measures to control immature mosquitoes in water are the preferred routine approaches, the spraying of adult mosquitoes is called for when biting populations reach critical levels or when a disease organism is present in adult mosquitoes. A very fine mist (ULV application) is sprayed into the air since flying mosquitoes must directly contact the pesticide in order for it to be effective. As reported on EPA pesticide fact sheets, ULV applications involve small quantities of pesticide active ingredient in relation the size of the treated area which minimizes exposure and risks to people and the environment.

How can I avoid exposure to Scourge?

Risk to the general public from the use of **Scourge** is minimal. Avoiding exposure is always the safest course of action, particularly for populations 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 possible pesticide treatments.
- 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, remain indoors with windows closed and with window air conditioners on non-vent (closed to the outside air) and window fans turned off during spraying.
- Avoid direct contact with surfaces that are still 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, immediately flush and rinse with water.

What are the symptoms of exposure to Scourge?

Irritation or sensitization sometimes occurs after exposure, causing an asthmatic condition or skin rash. The chance of experiencing these symptoms of exposure with proper use is 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 Scourge last in the environment?

The **Scourge** spray stays in the air for a short time until it lands on surfaces. **Resmethrin** has a low persistence and lasts no longer than 25 days in water and soil. **Resmethrin** breaks down faster in sunlight. **Scourge** used in mosquito control programs does not pose unreasonable risks to wildlife or the environment as reported by the EPA.

Where can I get more information on Scourge?

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

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

National Pesticide Information Center

800-858-7378

Draft Primer on Mosquito Control Product

"Fyfanon"

This sheet answers some basic questions about a mosquito control product in use in your county. Your Monmouth County Mosquito 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 called "Malathion." The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) current evaluation considers **Malathion**-containing products to be slightly toxic, and when applied according to the label, Malathion can be used for public health mosquito control programs without posing unreasonable risks to the general population.

Fyfanon is used for the control of adult mosquitoes. While habitat management and measures to control immature mosquitoes in water are the preferred routine approaches, the spraying of adult mosquitoes is called for when biting populations reach critical levels or when a disease organism is present in adult mosquitoes. A very fine mist (ULV application) is sprayed into the air since flying mosquitoes must directly contact the pesticide in order for it to be effective. As reported on EPA pesticide facts sheets, ULV applications involve small quantities of pesticide active ingredient in relation the size of the treated area which minimizes exposure and risks to people and the environment.

How can I avoid exposure to Fyfanon?

Risk to the general public from the use of **Fyfanon** is minimal. Avoiding exposure is always the safest course of action, particularly for populations 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 possible pesticide treatments.
- 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, remain indoors with windows closed and with window air conditioners on non-vent (closed to the outside air) and window fans turned off during spraying.
- Avoid direct contact with surfaces that are still 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, immediately 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 low. EPA has estimated the exposure and risks to both adults and children posed by ULV aerial and ground applications of malathion to be hundreds or even thousands of times below an amount that might pose a health concern. This is because of the very small amount of active ingredient released per acre of ground during a ULV application. 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 the above 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 lands on surfaces. **Malathion** has a low persistence and degrades rapidly in the environment lasting no longer than 25 days in water and soil. **Malathion** breaks down faster in sunlight. The USEPA cites that Malathion used in mosquito control programs does not pose unreasonable risks to wildlife or the environment.

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

National Pesticide Information Center

800-858-7378

For pesticide health information & possible exposures – 24 hours:

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

For New Jersey pesticide regulation & misuse complaints:

NJDEP Pesticide Control Program **609-984-6507**

For Federal pesticide regulation:

USEPA Region 2 Office of Pesticide Programs **732-321-6759**

For state-wide mosquito control information:

NJDEP Office of Mosquito Control Coordination **609-292-3649**

For mosquito control recommendations:

Rutgers University, Department of Entomology **732-932-9437**

For local health information:

The County Health Department **xxx-xxx-xxxx**

For local mosquito control information:

The Monmouth County Mosquito Commission **732-542-3630**

