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The following are news tips from Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency. To arrange an interview with a specialist on any of these topics, please phone PMRA Media Relations at (613) 736-3500.

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## **DEET CAN BE USED SAFELY ON CHILDREN AND ADULTS**

Recently, there has been some conflicting information published about the safety of insect repellents containing DEET used on children. Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) would like to remind people that following our re-evaluation of DEET in 2002, we have established new use guidelines for DEET on children and adults. This re-evaluation included a thorough assessment of risks to human health through evaluation of all toxicology and exposure data as well as adverse effects reports from poison control centres. After considering the recent studies on DEET released by the Canadian Medical Association and the University of Manitoba, we have determined that no changes to our current guidelines are required.

Our use guidelines for DEET on children can be found in *Safety Tips on Using Personal Insect Repellents*, on the Mosquito Control page of the PMRA Web site at [www.pmra.ca](http://www.pmra.ca). Details on the re-evaluation of DEET can also be found on the same page.

## **MOSQUITO ABATEMENT USE OF MALATHION RE-EVALUATED**

The PMRA has recently completed its re-evaluation of the use of malathion in mosquito control programs. The re-evaluation assessed the occupational and bystander risks of malathion based on the latest available data and modern

risk assessment standards. This includes special consideration for exposure to children and pregnant women. The results of the re-evaluation of malathion have been shared with provincial medical officers of health to aid them in making their decision on mosquito abatement programs.

The Agency has determined that large-scale ultra-low volume (ULV) application of malathion in residential areas to control adult mosquitoes does not pose unacceptable risks to bystanders or workers when it is applied at label rates and if workers use the appropriate protective equipment. The PMRA is proposing that all non-ULV uses to control mosquitoes be removed from the label, and that ULV application rates be limited to 60.8 grams per hectare by ground and 260 grams per hectare by air.

Interested parties are welcome to submit written comments on this proposal until November 4, 2003. Details on the re-evaluation of the mosquito control use of malathion are in PACR2003-10, *Re-evaluation of Malathion* on the PMRA Web site at [www.pmra.ca](http://www.pmra.ca).



**UPDATE ON CARBARYL  
RE-EVALUATION**

Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency is in the process of re-evaluating carbaryl, a commonly used carbamate insecticide used on lawns and gardens.

As a result of the re-evaluation, the manufacturer is proposing several risk mitigation measures for carbaryl. This includes a voluntary discontinuation of the broadcast applications of liquid formulation products to residential lawns while data to refine post-application risks of this use is being generated. Use on residential lawns will be limited to spot treatments. Other measures include the discontinuation of pet care uses, limitations on the packaging of powdered products and mitigation measures for ornamental uses. Details on the implementation of these measures are under discussion and will be communicated in the near future.

For more information on the re-evaluation of carbaryl, please see REV2003-06 *Update on the Re-evaluation of Carbaryl in Canada*, available on the What's New page of [www.pmra.ca](http://www.pmra.ca).

**For the most recent developments in pesticide regulation in Canada, please see the What's New page on our Web site at [www.pmra.ca](http://www.pmra.ca). You may subscribe to the What's New e-mail list on that page as well.**

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