Message

From: AMCA [amca@mosquito.org]
Sent: 4/1/2021 4:52:25 PM
To: Saunders, Jennifer [Saunders.Jennifer@epa.gov]
Subject: AMCA Bi-Weekly News

NEWS & UPDATES

APRIL 1, 2021

UPCOMING EVENTS

4/14/2021
AMCA Webinar: Nontarget effects of mosquito control insecticides on pollinators

5/10/2021 » 5/14/2021
23rd Annual Virtual Washington Conference

6/20/2021 » 6/25/2021
Annual Biology of Vector-borne Diseases Six-Day Course

View our event calendar.

THE 23rd ANNUAL WASHINGTON CONFERENCE
MONDAY, MAY 10TH - THURSDAY, MAY 13TH, 2021
Virtual

REGISTER NOW

LATEST NEWS

Read about recent events, essential information and the **latest community news**.

Did You Miss It?

Did you miss the Townhall meeting on "Why Grassroots is Important"? Don't worry, we recorded it for you. AMCA discusses why it is important to get involved in the legislative processes and how you can help this year at the AMCA Virtual Washington Conference.

Learn more about the meeting **on our website** and register now.

Anastasia Mosquito Control District Survey

The Anastasia Mosquito Control District of St. Johns County, Florida, through a Deployed Warfighter Protection Program Grant, is working to better understand action thresholds which are used to make operational control decisions for mitigating nuisance and vector mosquitoes. The overarching goal will be to understand the minimum criteria needed to develop evidence-based action thresholds for mosquito control. Data generated from this preliminary survey will be essential to creating forecast tools for when nuisance and vector control efforts should be initiated. We are looking for ALL mosquito control entities from around the world to participate in this survey. Please click on the following link to take the brief survey: **https://anastasiamosquito.iad1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2i4Tbij91abDivP**

If you have any questions about this survey or research, please feel free to contact Dr. Whitney Qualls; PI of the grant project at **wqualls@amcdfl.org**. Thank you again for your time and consideration.

New Rule Would Clarify Product Performance Data for Products Claiming Efficacy Against Pesticides of Public Health Importance

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed to codify product performance data requirements for products claiming efficacy against insects identified to be of significant public health importance (e.g., ticks, mosquitoes, cockroaches, etc.). The purpose of the actions is to increase the efficiency of the agency's approval process and save registrants time and money.

To read the proposed rule **click here**. Comments will be accepted in the docket EPA-HQ-OPP-2020-0124 at www.regulations.gov through May 21, 2021.

New Data on PFAS Contamination from Fluorinated Containers

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released new testing data related to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) found in fluorinated containers in which a mosquito control product was packaged and sold. Eight different PFAS were identified in rinsate from the containers tested. According to a statement by the agency, PFAS were most likely formed from a chemical reaction during the container fluorination process which then leached into the pesticide product. To view the data, click **here**.

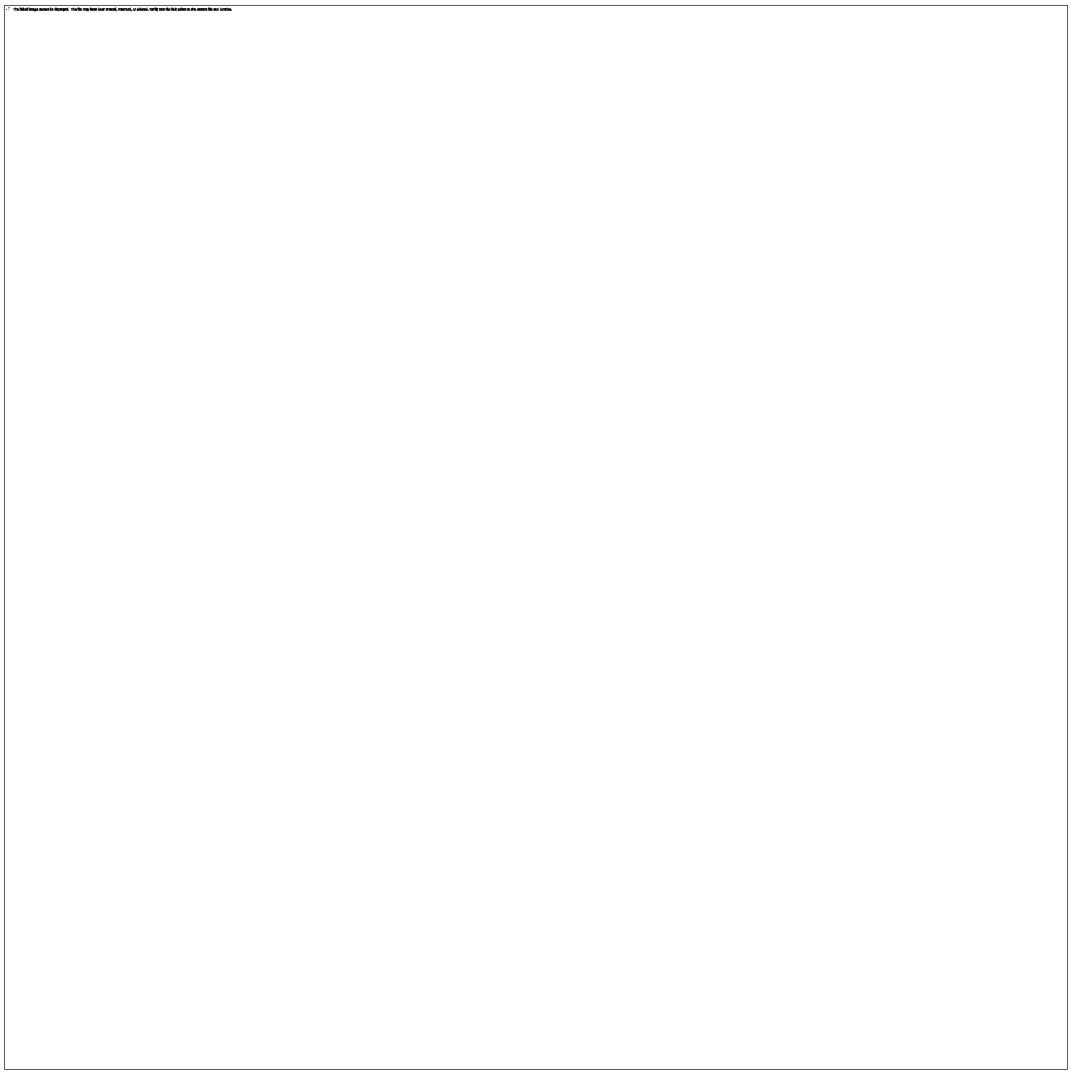
The pesticide manufacturer has notified all its customers regarding management of the product, voluntarily stopped shipments of all products in fluorinated HDPE containers, and is now using non-fluorinated containers.

AMCA will continue to work closely with the EPA and our industry partners to identify any potential contamination in products use to protect the public from mosquitoes and the pathogens they may transmit.

Lawsuit could result in Critical Habitat designation for the rusty patch bumblebee

The rusty patched bumblebee was protected under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in January 2017, but the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has yet to designate **critical habitat**. This is not uncommon, as less than half of the 1,500 listed species have defined critical habitat. Unfortunately, ESA actions are often driven by lawsuits. A **lawsuit** recently filed by conservation groups could force FWS to alter their **draft recovery plan**, which may affect our members in the Midwest and Mid-Atlantic.

In 2020, The FWS announced that designating critical habitat is not warranted for the rusty patched bumble bee, however they have identified areas of potential habitat. The map below shows the historical range of the bee in gray and the "areas of high potential" in red. Currently, only areas in red may require an incidental take permit before certain actions are approved by USFWS (such as mosquito control).



USFWS: Rusty Patched Bumble Bee Map

"Change happens when enough people speak up in the same voice." ~ Jeremy Chin

To educate our nation's leaders regarding mosquito control efforts, improve public health infrastructure for vector-borne disease surveillance, and reform the broken Endangered Species Act process – join your colleagues for the 23rd Washington Conference this May. There's never been a better time to engage your members of Congress than right now, when you can do it with the help of experts in the field while in the comfort of your home or office. Participate this year to get a feel for how the conference works, then join us on the Hill next year to witness democracy at its finest. Your L&R Committee members are happy to answer all your questions – don't hesitate to reach out.

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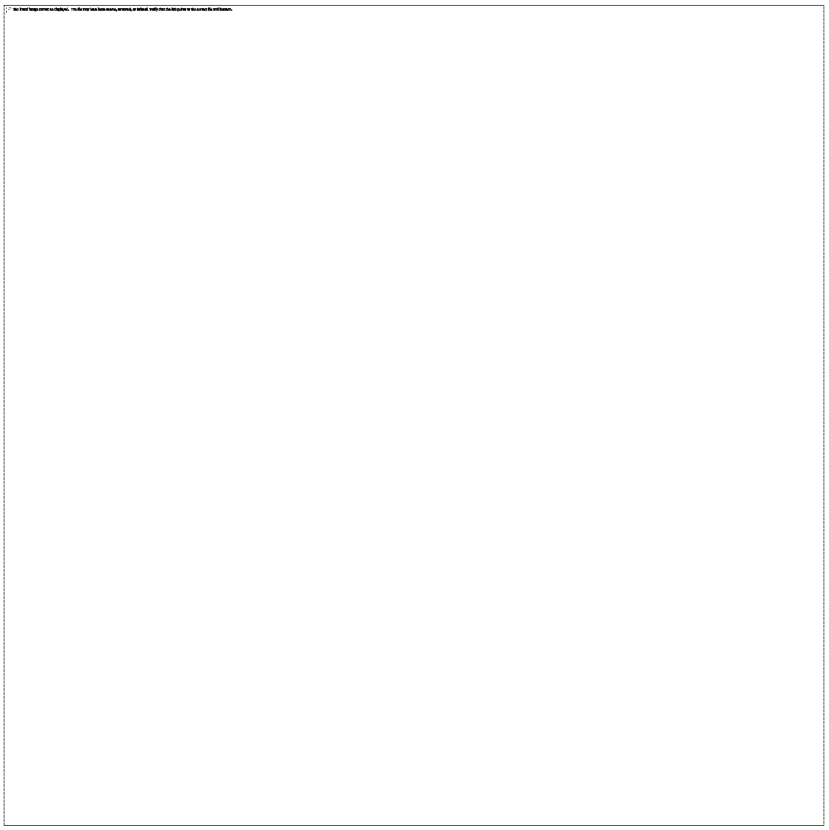
AMCA WEBINAR: Nontarget effects of mosquito control insecticides on pollinators



Date: April 14, 2021
Time: 01:00PM - 02:00PM

Mosquito-borne pathogens continue to threaten human and animal health. For this reason, there is an urgent need to control populations of disease transmitting mosquitoes. The application of aerosolized chemical insecticides is a proven method to reduce adult populations of mosquitoes in an area. Nevertheless, these applications are not without consequence. Insecticide persistence on plant foliage and surface water can result in unwanted acute and chronic effects on local fauna. Nontarget effects can have devastating outcomes for imperiled species such as the monarch butterfly (Danaus plexippus) and common eastern bumble bee (Bombus impatiens) - both have declined substantially in recent years. To elucidate the effects of nontarget toxicity on native pollinators, we exposed several insect species to Fyfanon EW (malathion) and DeltaGard (deltamethrin) by standard mosquito research methods. Laboratory bottle bioassays were used to quantify the effects of acute toxicity to native bumble bees and mosquitoes. To study pernicious effects of exposure, we reared monarch caterpillars on milkweed that had been contaminated by outdoor space applications of DeltaGard at varying distances from the spray path. Although the insecticides we tested cause nontarget mortality, our results suggest that with careful planning and consideration we can mitigate the effects of mortality.

Speaker(s):

- Bryan V. Giordano, PhD, Research Scientist, Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory

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