



Our Commitment to Bee Health

Providing Solutions for Vector Management Today and Tomorrow

At Bayer, we know that sustainable vector management helps ensure a healthy home and environment that can:

- Help protect people from the mosquitoes that transmit West Nile Virus, Dengue, Encephalitis and Zika Virus.
- Help protect residents and visitors from the nuisance and debilitating impact of biting mosquitoes.
- Contribute to maintaining property values, tourist traffic and quality of life through nuisance abatement.

We Must Protect Bees

Honey bees and other pollinators are important to urban and agricultural landscapes and to our world's food supply. In fact, about a third of all U.S. crops depend to some extent on bee pollination – and the most important of these pollinators is the honey bee.

For nearly 30 years, Bayer has worked to ensure the protection of pollinators by providing products to combat bee parasites and by seeking solutions to improve bee health through a sustained focus on research and development.

Although many targeted mosquito management treatments have little potential for interaction with pollinators, as an industry leader Bayer remains committed to bee health education and the adoption of best practices that minimize potential exposures to bees, as part of our overall stewardship effort.

We are also actively involved in conducting and supporting research that will improve bee health. There are numerous factors that can add stress and negatively impact honey bee health, including parasitic mites, viral and fungal diseases, habitat loss, nutritional deficiencies, improper use of pesticides and hive management practices.

Most scientists agree that a primary stressor to honey bee health is the Varroa mite, an invasive parasite that weakens hives by feeding on bees and transmitting serious diseases. Bayer is exploring solutions to control the Varroa mite and the devastating impact it has on bee colony health.

Using Best Management Practices for 360° Vector Control

As advocates for mosquito control that also reduces the risk to pollinators, Bayer supports using Best Management Practices (BMPs) as part of our 360° vector control program – a holistic approach that leverages our history, expertise and innovation capacity to enable vector-borne disease programs to more sustainably help protect the quality of people's lives. A key part of our 360° program includes professional education and training, so that potential exposures to pollinators can be minimized.

We routinely advise professional applicators to:

- Use practices to minimize potential harmful interactions with pollinators.
- Inspect and remove water sources that may harbor mosquito larvae.
- Determine the most appropriate vector control option for each situation.
- Choose product only after analyzing the threat and confirming the application is listed on the label.
- Minimize potential drift through targeted applications and by following the label directions.





Product **Application** and **Stewardship** Tips

for Professional Applicators in the Vector Management Industry

Pesticides Not Linked to Long-Term Honey Bee Colony Decline When Used According to Label

Bayer is committed to the safe and effective use of products and technologies that help protect our homes and workplaces by fostering healthy environments where we live, work and play.

Some reports have suggested a link between bee health and pesticides, regardless of whether they are used in agricultural, recreational or residential settings. Because Bayer is a leading supplier to these markets, we believe it is important to understand the facts regarding pesticides and honey bees:

- Large-scale field studies conducted in Europe and North America show that colony health is correlated with the presence of parasites and diseases, but not with the use of pesticides.
- All pesticides are extensively reviewed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to make sure they can be safely used when applied according to all label directions for humans and the environment before they reach the market.
- While many insecticides may be toxic to honey bees, label uses are designed to minimize potential harmful exposures to bees.

Application Tips

- Read and follow ALL label directions and precautions carefully.
- Apply wide-area, ULV treatments when most mosquitoes are active (post-dusk to pre-dawn) and pollinators are not foraging.
- Calibrate equipment for optimum droplet size and application rate.
- Do not spray when wind conditions may allow spray clouds to drift into unintended areas.
- Identify and record locations (permanent and seasonal) of honey bee hives to help prevent exposure.
- Notify beekeepers of scheduled spraying of locations where hives are/have been placed.

Our Commitment to Bees Continues

Environmental sustainability requires the responsible use of vector management products and the preservation of pollinators. Bayer has been committed to protecting the bees that pollinate our crops and gardens for nearly 30 years. Working through our Bee Care Centers in the U.S. and Germany, we will continue to collaborate with stakeholders, promote product stewardship and invest in the research necessary to find the solutions that will help bees thrive.

For more information on Bayer's commitment to bee health, please contact the Customer Interaction Center at 1-866-99-BAYER or visit www.beehealth.bayer.us.



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