



# OHIO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE GYPSY MOTH PROGRAM

Division of Plant Industry, Plant Pest Control Section  
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<http://www.agri.ohio.gov/divs/plant/gypsv/gypsv-index.aspx>



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## DISRUPT II – Pheromone Fact Sheet

### What is DISRUPT II?

DISRUPT II is an environmentally friendly insect pheromone product to control gypsy moth infestations. It consists of two outside barrier films and a middle reservoir containing the gypsy moth (*Lymantria dispar*) specific pheromone known as disparlure.

### How Does DISRUPT II Work?

The pheromone is a sex attractant produced by the female moth creating a distinct scent trail that the male moth uses to locate her for mating. It is species specific meaning DISRUPT II targets only the gypsy moth and no other insects, fish, reptiles, birds or mammals. DISRUPT II works by interfering with the scent communication between the adult male and female moths. It is not a chemical that will kill the gypsy moth but will hide or “mask” the scent trail the male moth follows to locate the female for mating purposes. When the product is aerially applied over trees the tiny flakes start to slowly release a small amount of gypsy moth pheromone into the area. The released pheromone will then permeate throughout the treated area covering up the distinct scent trails produced by the female gypsy moths. Therefore the male moths cannot find and mate with the female moths causing a significant decrease in fertilized eggs and reducing the gypsy moth population.

### How is DISRUPT II Applied?

DISRUPT II is applied by airplanes flying above the trees. Approximately 1/4 to 1/2 cup of DISRUPT II (35 to 85 grams of total product which contains 6 to 15 grams of gypsy moth specific pheromone) is applied along with approximately 1.2 to 4 tablespoons of sticker (0.6 to 2 ounces) per acre. The tiny 1/32” x 3/32” flakes (about the size of a grain of rice) are hardly noticeable when applied at this low rate (i.e. only 1 to 2 flakes per square foot).

### Is DISRUPT II Harmful to Humans, Animals or the Environment?

No, DISRUPT II is not harmful to humans, animals or the environment. DISRUPT II has been used for more than 20 years to manage gypsy moth infestations on over 2 million acres and there have been no reports of this product causing detrimental effects.

### Is DISRUPT II Harmful to Car Finishes?

No. If you find DISRUPT II flakes on your vehicle they can be removed by pre-treating the area and scrubbing with regular car wash soap.