



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/gypsy/gypsy-index.aspx>



MIMIC 2LV Fact Sheet

What is MIMIC and how does it work?

Mimic is a chemical insecticide specific to larvae of Lepidoptera pest. It works by triggering a natural hormone in the gypsy moth larvae that induces the molting process. Gypsy moth caterpillars periodically shed their skin (molt) as they grow forming new larger skins. After a gypsy moth caterpillar ingests Mimic, the hormone causes the caterpillar to start a premature molt that results in the death of the insect within a few days. Mimic must be ingested for it to be effective. Simply coming into contact with Mimic will not cause the gypsy moth caterpillar to die.

Does MIMIC effect Humans, Mammals, or Birds?

Due to its mode of action, MIMIC does not have an effect on Humans, Mammals or Birds. In tests, even birds that consume treated larvae are not affected. Mimic is highly specific to insects that go through a molting process and is therefore an excellent product for use in Integrated Pest Management programs.

Does MIMIC effect honey bees?

No, MIMIC is specific to Lepidoptera larvae.

Beneficial Effects

MIMIC is quick acting, thus reducing any additional defoliation after application and maintaining tree health. By preventing tree mortality: 1) water quality and temperature is maintained, thus protecting all organisms dependent on the water, 2) prevents increased predation of nesting songbirds, 3) protects other leaf eating and canopy dependent insects, 4) preserves acorn production and food supplies for all the birds, rodents and mammals dependent on them, 5) reduces the risk of forest fires, 6) allows the natural cycles of the forest ecosystem to continue to thrive and sustain diverse, interdependent populations of plants and animals.

Adverse Effects

MIMIC will reduce the number of moths and butterflies in the treatment area that are specifically in the caterpillar life stage during the effective period of the insecticide (30 to 40 days after application). Because our treatment areas are isolated spots, re-population of non-target species is expected to occur within 1 to 3 years.

Mimic may also affect aquatic invertebrates (crawfish) that go through a molting process, and therefore cannot be applied directly to open bodies of water.

As with the application of any control product, people, pets or domestic animals with known health concerns may wish to avoid exposure during the spray operation and until the Mimic product is dry (usually within a few hours).