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Fact Sheet

HERCON® DISRUPT® BIO-FLAKE GM

Gypsy Moth Mating Disruptant

EPA Reg. No. 8730-75

What is DISRUPT BIO-FLAKE GM?

Hercon DISRUPT BIO-FLAKE GM is an environmentally friendly insect pheromone product to control gypsy moth infestations. It consists of polymer that is biodegradable with the pheromone (12.5% active ingredient by weight) distributed throughout the polymer. The small flakes are applied with a sticking agent and the pheromone is slowly released over a period of several months.

How Does it 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 BIO-FLAKE GM targets only the gypsy moth and no other insects, fish, reptiles, birds or mammals. DISRUPT BIO-FLAKE GM 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 BIO-FLAKE GM Applied?

DISRUPT BIO-FLAKE GM is applied by airplanes flying above the trees. Approximately 1/4 to 1/2 cup of DISRUPT BIO-FLAKE GM (48 to 120 grams of total product which contains 6 to 15 grams of gypsy moth specific pheromone) is applied along with approximately 2 to 4 tablespoons of sticker (0.9 to 2 ounces) per acre. The 1/8" x 3/32" flakes are hardly noticeable when applied at these rates (i.e. only 1 to 2 flakes per 10 square feet).

Is DISRUPT BIO-FLAKE GM Harmful to Humans, Animals or the Environment?

No, DISRUPT BIO-FLAKE GM is not harmful to humans, animals or the environment. The pheromone active ingredient has been used in other products for more than 20 years to manage gypsy moth infestations on almost 6 million acres. The biodegradable polymer has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for various applications in humans, such as a drug delivery device, encapsulating drugs for controlled release, sutures and adhesion barriers. The polymer eventually degrades into carbon dioxide and water.

Is DISRUPT BIO-FLAKES GM Harmful to Car Finishes?

No. If you find DISRUPT BIO-FLAKES GM on your vehicle they can be removed by pre-treating the area and scrubbing with regular car wash soap. Removing the flakes should occur as soon as possible (i.e. within two to three days).

Please see the DISRUPT BIO-FLAKE GM product label for more information.