

Ministerial Order to Fog for Mosquitoes in West St. Paul and Parts of Winnipeg

The Manitoba government is issuing a Ministerial Order under *The Environment Act* to begin spraying for adult mosquitoes with [DeltaGard 20EW® \(Active ingredient deltamethrin\)](#) because of high numbers of adult *Culex tarsalis* mosquitoes and evidence of infection with West Nile virus (WNV). The order will cover the Rural Municipality of West St. Paul and the City of Winnipeg.

Adult mosquito control occurs in the evening and at night and is expected to begin Thursday evening (August 5, 2021), weather conditions permitting. Subject to weather and site conditions, adult mosquito control will take place in the areas of, but not limited to, the Rural Municipality of West St. Paul and the [City of Winnipeg's insect management areas 43, 44, 48, 49 and 51](#).

Attached is a copy of the proposed mosquito control area using ULV deltamethrin. For more information about the Ministerial Order Bulletin, please visit

<https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=52017>

Regarding Impact on Honey Bees:

Deltamethrin is highly toxic to honey bees, but breakdowns quickly in the presence of light. Precautions to avoid direct contact with the ultra low volume (ULV) application of this insecticide should therefore be taken, especially if the bees are within 90 meters from the road where the ULV application vehicles will be travelling.

Moving the bees away from the treatment area is likely the best way to avoid any impact caused by the insecticide, but it is important to note that moving bees can also result in a negative impact to the adult bee population in your colony. If it is not possible or practical to relocate the bees outside the mosquito control area then minimizing the bees contact with the insecticide may be your next best option.

Below are some suggestions that can be done to your colony in the evening of the fogging event (i.e. prior to the fogging) to minimize the

amount and/or exposure time the bees would have with the ULV application of deltamethrin:

- Locating your colony(ies) at least 90 m away from the road. The amount of the ULV insecticide in the air will decrease with the distance from the application device. Even under ideal fogging conditions, the efficacy of the insecticide is considered very low beyond 90 m away from the application device.
- Locating your colony(ies) behind or surrounded by a natural (e.g. shrubs) or artificial barrier that is twice as tall as a colony. When combined with the 90 m distance, this will greatly help to minimize the bees' exposure to high concentrations of the ULV insecticide.
- Facing the colony(ies) away from the road where the ULV application vehicles will be traveling can help to minimize significant drifting of the ULV insecticide into the colony(ies). This should only be considered if your colony(ies) is less than 90 m from the road and/or does not have any natural or artificial barrier around the bees.
- Placing a damp bedsheet or towel over the colony(ies) so that it lightly covers the entrance can help to keep the bees cool and reduce the activity of the bees in the early morning, thus allowing time for the insecticide to breakdown. It is important to remove the damp bedsheet before the hive gets to active and runs the risk of overheating. Under most conditions, this could be around 10 – 11 am. If the following morning is extremely hot and sunny, this should occur earlier, perhaps no later than 10 am.

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