Insects in Recreation Areas

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Red Imported Fire Ants

Quarantine Information: Red Imported Fire Ant (RIFA) colonies can be found throughout the south eastern United States from Texas through Florida. RIFA has more recently expanded it's range to the west, so that scattered colonies can now be found in New Mexico, Arizona, and California. More long-term established populations have also spread to the north, into the states of Oklahoma, North Carolina and Virginia. In 2009, several counties in Virginia were placed under the Federal Fire Ant Quarantine. These counties included James City, and York, and the independent cities of Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Poquoson, Portsmouth, Suffolk, Virginia Beach and Williamsburg. In 2019, survey data indicated that the RIFA populations had spread further in the state of Virginia so the quarantine locations were expanded to include the Counties of Brunswick, Greenville, Isle of Wight, Mecklenburg, Southhampton, and the cities of Emporia and Franklin. What this quarantine means is that the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) will no longer be responsible for treating fire ant mounds found in these cities and counties. Fire ant control will now be the responsibility of those citizens living in the quarantine locations. A current map of all RIFA quarantine locations in Virginia may be viewed at https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/pdf/fire-ant-quar-map.pdf. However, it is important to note that not all RIFA populations occur in the quarantine area. RIFA colonies have also been documented in the city of Richmond and as far west as Montgomery County.

Note that RIFA infestations occurring outside of the quarantined areas in Virginia should still be reported to the VDACS Office of Plant & Pest Services at (804) 786-3515, or visit the VDACS website at http://www.vdacs.state.va.us/. Individuals and commercial pest control operators residing outside of the quarantined area should not attempt to treat fire ant infestations.

Warnings: RIFA are a common nuisance around dumpsters, trash cans, kitchen gardens, and areas where pets are fed and watered. Fire ants can also be a threat to small, young or confined pets. Puppies and kittens playing outdoors should be supervised in locations where fire ants are present. Likewise, dogs tied in the yard must have enough lead to allow them to move 10 or more yards in any direction to escape a fire ant attack. Dogs confined in runs should never be tied up.

Habitat

Fire ants prefer to construct mounds in areas that are open and exposed to the sun. They are often found in cultivated fields or pastures. They are rarely found in wooded locations with heavy tree canopy. In urban areas, they will nest in cemeteries, parks, playing fields, and yards. Disturbing the mound may cause workers to remove the queen(s) and even the entire colony to another location. Colonies have also been found inside cars, tractors, and recreational vehicles. RIFA are attracted to electrical currents and will nest in and around heat pumps, junction boxes, traffic lights, and similar devices. Nesting RIFA have been known to cause electrical fires because they often chew on electrical wiring.

RIFA mounds in the yard are unsightly and will spread within a few months if there is no effort to eliminate them. However, the mounds must be treated properly or else the mound disturbance may cause the colony to split, resulting in two or three mounds. If you believe you have discovered a RIFA nest and live in the quarantine area, we recommend that you contact a pest control company immediately. Failure to eradicate an entire nest will result in the local establishment and spread of RIFA in a very short period of time.

Chemical Control

The following section describing RIFA control techniques is to be used for fire ant control in the quarantine areas of Virginia. Individual mound treatments and baiting can both be employed to mitigate infestations in small areas (e.g., the area surrounding a single building or an urban playground). Whatever product you might choose to apply, please read and follow the label directions exactly. Improper pesticide applications have been responsible for a significant percentage of fire ant spread within the U.S.

Mound Treatments

When treating individual fire ant mounds, it is extremely important that the mound remain undisturbed prior to treatment. Drenches, dusts or granules must come in direct contact with the ants to be effective. Disturbing the mound may cause the workers to move the queen(s) or even the entire colony to another location.

Individual mound treatments may take the form of a drench, where the mound is flooded with a large volume of liquid insecticide labeled for this purpose. This is the fastest acting method of fire ant management. Unfortunately, the queen may be located too deep in the soil to be killed by the insecticide, in which case control will only be temporary. Injection devices to aid in the deep penetration of liquid insecticide are readily available for professional pest control personnel, but these devices are not designed for homeowner use.

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Baiting

Fire ant baiting has been used to treat individual mounds, and even entire fields where the bait is broadcast across the landscape to address multiple fire ant colonies within the same area. For baiting individual mounds it is important to lightly apply the bait around the mound to avoid disturbing the colony. In this way foragers leaving the mound will immediately encounter the bait and transport it back into the mound for consumption by the queen(s) and other members of the colony. Broadcast baits are usually granular formulations that are put into a spreader and applied over a large infested area. Thus, foraging ants from multiple colonies can pick up the bait granules and bring them back into the nest.

For more detailed information see the Red Imported Fire Ant (RIFA) publication: http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/444/444-284/444-284.pdf

Pests	Pesticide	Insecticide and Cont		
Outdoor Ants	For colony control, ant species must be identified before a proper bait can be selected. Ants are finicky eaters and may prefer either a sweet or protein-based bait. Once the ant is identified, put out an appropriately labeled bait where foraging ants are seen.		Application and Remarks Recent studies have indicated that non-repellent perimeter spray applications, combined with granular bait application around structure but several feet away from the spray application, have been very successful for preventing pest ant entry into structures.	
Chiggers	bifenthrin Lambda- cyhalothrin	Bifen I/T (7.9 %) Demand EZ 2.43%	Most effective when directed into "hot spots" where chiggers and their animal hosts are known to be abundant. A single application in early spring is often all that is required, although in severe infestations, treatment may need to be repeated in June. The ground and vegetation up to a height of about three feet should be thoroughly wetted with the insecticide and applied according to label instructions. Children and pets should be kept off treated areas until the vegetation is completely dry.	
	carbaryl	Sevin (22.5% Concentrate) Sevin (5% Dust)	Treat grassy areas, especially those not regularly mowed. Spray sites where pest is present. Mow areas around house. Spray every 4 to 8 weeks, as needed. Repellents will prevent attack; apply to socks and/or pants, cuffs, and sleeves.	
	cypermethrin ¹	Demon EC (0.1%)	Usually best as emulsion. Need thorough and uniform distribution. Apply to outside surfaces and cracks and crevices where chiggers may hide. Also apply along fence lines and around sheds, barns, carports, and other outdoor structures. Avoid spraying plants with cypermethrin. Indoor control using sprays or fogs is generally not the recommended method for treatment. Building exclusion is very important. Ensure that screening on windows and doors does not have rips or holes.	
Blood-feeding Flies	resmethrin	Ortho Outdoor Insect Fogger (0.25%)	Outdoors: Good sanitation and tight screens are sound preventive control measures. Use of the fly swatter is still	
(Deer Flies, Black Flies)	tralomethrin 0.03%	Real Kill Home Insect Control (0.03%)	 practical. Do not contaminate food or utensils with insecticides. Repellents containing DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus or IR3535 can be applied to the skin and perme 	
	bifenthrin 0.05%	Ortho Home Defense MAX (0.05%, 0.0125% Zeta-cypermethrin)	thrin-based repellents can be used to treat clothing. Light colored clothing and protective mesh outdoor wear may be of some value in reducing annoyance from biting flies. In extreme cases, hats with mesh face and neck veils and neckerchiefs may add some protection.	
Mosquito Adults	Repellents for per	sonal protection	Repellents containing DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyp-	
	d phenothrin	Summit Outdoor Mosquito Repellent Coils (0.2%)	tus or IR3535 can be applied to exposed skin and permethrin-based repellents can be use to treat clothing.	
	Yard Sprays cyfluthrin	Bayer Advanced PowerForce Multi-Insect Killer (0.75%)	Mosquitoes prefer to rest in protected sites during the day so removal of tall weeds and overgrowth is part of an integrated mosquito management program. To further reduce biting mosquitoes, insecticides can be applied to the lower limbs of shade trees, shrubs, and other shaded areas, such as under	
	•	Demand EZ (2.43%)	decks and along foundations. A hose-end sprayer is usually most effective and convenient for such applications.	
	bifenthrin	Bifen I/T (7.9 %)	most enective and convenient for such applications.	

¹Professional Use: These products are not restricted use but are designated as professional use because they are more potent and require specialized training, application equipment, or personal protective equipment that make them unsuitable for homeowner applications.

		Insecticide and Conti	
Pests	Pesticide		Application and Remarks
Mosquito Adults (cont.)	Aerosol Sprays permethrin	Hot Shot Flying Insect Killer (0.15%, d-trans allethrin 0.25%)	
Mosquito Larvae	temephos	Abate EC (43%)	Apply larvicides based on inspection of breeding sites
		Abate 1 SG Granules	and not on a routine basis. Open bodies of water, such as large ponds and streams, are not mosquito-breeding areas
	methoprene	Aquaprene Tossits (1.8%)	and should not be treated. Polluted water usually requires
		Altosid XR Briquets (2.1%)	a higher rate of pesticide than required for clean water.
		Altosid SR 20 Liquid Concentrate (20%)	Temephos is harmful to fish; keep out of lakes, ponds, and streams. Use methoprene in small bodies of water not known to be fish habitats. Small backyard ponds should be
		Altosid XR-G Granules (1.6%)	. checked for mosquito larvae.
	Biologicals: <i>Bacillus</i> methoprene Gambi		Remove outdoor breeding sites: water-holding containers such as old tires, cans, and buckets. Change water in bird baths and pet dishes frequently. Make sure gutters are not clogged.
Red Imported Fire Ants	If you live outside of these locations (Brunswick, Greensville, Isle of Wight, James City, Mecklenburg, Southampton and York counties or the cities of Chesapeake Emporia, Franklin, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Poquoson Portsmouth, Suffolk, Virginia Beach and Williamsburg) do not attempt to treat fire ants yourself but call the Department of Agriculture Office of Plant and Pest Services immediately (804/786-3515 in Richmond or 757/562-6637 in Franklin). If you live within those counties and cities listed above, you are in the fire ant quarantine area and may treat the fire ants yourself.		Baits must be kept cool and dry. Do not store baits next to repellent or smelly insecticides or cleaning agents. Apply baits carefully according to the label directions. Be sure to apply the bait around the mound rather than on top of it. Fire ants forage out from the sides of their mound and will collect the bait near their foraging tunnels. Placing bait on top of the mound will incite the ants' defense response. The ants will attack aggressively but will not pick up the bait. Do not attempt using home remedies (applications of boiling water, diesel fuel, grits, gasoline, etc.) to kill a fire ant mound. Most home remedies will only disrupt the fire ant colony, causing it to split. This results in two additional mounds springing up right next to the treated mound
	fipronil	MaxForce FC Fire Ant Bait (0.00045%)1	a month or two after treatment. If home remedies were effective, we would not have fire ants infesting the entire southeastern United States. The Ortho product is applied
	indoxacarb	Advion Fire Ant Bait1 (0.045%)	as drench treatment to individual mounds. Read the produc
	hydramethylnon	Amdro Fire Ant Bait Granules (0.73%) Amdro Kills Fire Ants Yard Treatment Bait (0.036%, methoprene 0.0172%) Extinguish Plus Fire Ant Bait 0.36% methoprene 0.25%	label for directions. For at least two decades USDA researchers have made heroic efforts to identify biological control agents that might slow or eliminate the spread of Red Imported Fire Ants in the US. There are currently three biological control agents under field investigation: a parasitic fungus, Kneallhazia solenopsae; a virus, Solenopsis invicta
	pyriproxyfen	Esteem Fire Ant Bait (0.5%)	 virus-3 (SINV-3); and two species of fire ant decapitating phorid flies. While the phorid flies have been used as bio-
	acephate	Ortho Orthene Fire Ant Killer (50%)	logical control agents for a number of years, the fungus and RIFA specific virus are relatively new. These agents
	Zeta-cypermethrin	Amdro® QuickKill Fire Ant Mound Drench (0.35%)	are intended to be used in combination but their efficacy in the field is still under investigation.
Spiders	Indoors: Insecticid	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Indoors: Spiders, egg sacs, and webs can be removed with
	Outdoors: Pesticide sprays have been proven to have very limited efficacy. Use a vacuum or broom to eliminate webs and remove spiders.		a vacuum. Dispose of vacuum bag immediately. Outdoors: Turn off outdoor lights that attract spider food (insects). Practically all spiders in Virginia are harmless. The only exceptions are the black widow and brown reclispiders (a non-native species that can be imported into t state of Virginia), which are poisonous. However, these states and are not often affected by sprays.

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Table 6.1 - I	Table 6.1 - Recommended Insecticide and Control Use (cont.)					
Pests	Pesticide		Application and Remarks			
Ticks (outdoor areas)	esfenvalerate	Conquer (3.48%) Eliminator Ant, Flea & Tick Killer II Concentrate (0.425%)				
	permethrin	Martin's Permethrin SFR (36.8%)	Outdoors (area control of ticks): Do not spray plants with cypermethrin. Mow areas around the house, to reduce tick habitat. Ticks require high humidity to survive and thus are			
		Bonide® Ant, Flea & Tick Killer Granules (0.25%)	most often found in grassy, brushy, wooded, and shaded areas. Reducing the humidity in these areas by keeping			
	bifenthrin	Bifen I/T (7.9 %)	grass well clipped, removing brush, and pruning trees to allow more sunlight to penetrate to the soil surface will			
		Eliminator Ant, Flea & Tick Killer Plus Granules (0.1%)	discourage ticks from becoming established in these areas. Insecticide sprays can be applied but modifying the habitat			
	cypermethrin ¹	Demon® Max (25.3%)	is a more long-term approach to tick management.			
	carbaryl	Sevin [®] Concentrate Bug Killer (22.5%)				
Yellow jackets (ground nests)	knockdown of the nest. You can s	Above-ground nests: Aerosols can be used for a quick knockdown of the nest. You can spray as far away as 15-20 feet. These quick-kill wasp aerosols have oily bases, so				
	tetratmethrin	Wasp-X Wasp & Hornet Spray (0.5%. Etofenprox 0.5%, piperonyl butoxide 1%)	care should be taken to not stain surfaces.			
		Bonide Wasp & Hornet Killer (0.1%, permethrin 0.25%, piperonyl butoxide 0.5%)	the nest. Wear protective clothing. Remove above-ground nests when activity ceases. Below-ground nests: Treat the nest first with aerosols.			
	geraniol	EcoEXEMPT Jet (2.0%, 2-phenethyl propionate 3.0%)	When aerosol is dry, apply an insecticidal dust in the opening. The dust will prevent future yellow-jacket emergence. Check the nest the following day to see if the insects are dead (can be verified by lack of activity). Repeat if			
	cyfluthrin	Tempo® Dust (1.0%)	Outdoors/Indoors: Apply insecticide to the nest entrance at night. Do not cover the nest with soil. Wear protective clothing (and a bee veil) at all times during treatment.			
	pyrethrins (wasps only)	PT 565 Plus XLO® (0.5%, piperonyl butoxide 1.0%, n-Octyl bicycloheptene dicarboximide 1.0%) CB 80 Extra (0.5%, piperonyl butoxide 4.0%)	Baits and Lures: Baited traps can be used when pesticide application is undesirable. Traps should be checked and cleaned daily. Lure traps can be used to reduce the number of localized foraging workers. The most common lure in traps, heptyl butyrate, attracts primarily the western yellow jacket and not other species. Meat such as chicken can be added as an attractant and will improve catches of the German yellow jacket and Vespula vulgaris. The meat must be replaced frequently because yellow jackets aren't attracted to rotting meat. Lures need to be replaced periodically; follow trap directions regarding replacement. To reduce the number of yellow jackets foraging in specific areas such as patios, picnic tables, concession stands, and dumpsters, place the traps around the periphery. In large areas such as parks, place traps about 200 feet from the area to be protected and about every 150 feet along the circumference. In backyards, place them along the edge of the property line as far away from patios or other protected areas as possible.			

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Wood-Destroying Insects

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Control of wood-infesting insects is best accomplished by a professional pest control operator. The information below is intended to provide a homeowner with some understanding of the control methods and materials, but not all the steps are included. Read product labels. Most termite control products are only available to professionals. For information on identifying termite infestations see the publication: Signs of Subterranean Termite Infestation (http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/444/444-501/444-501. pdf). For information on choosing a termite control option see the publication: Subterranean Termite Treatment Options (http:// pubs. ext.vt.edu/444/444-500,pdf). Information on selecting a pest control company can be found in Section 1 of this guide.

Table 6.2 - Recommended Insecticide Use

Pests	Pesticide		Application	Nonchemical Control and Remarks
Termites	Soil Treatment:		Soil adjacent to the house foun-	Subterranean termites feed on
(subterranean)	fipronil	Termidor SC (9.1%) ¹ Termidor HE (8.73%) ¹	dation must be saturated with termiticide. A "V"-shaped trench	materials containing cellulose and have strict moisture requirements.
	imidacloprid	Premise 75 (75%) ¹	is dug against the foundation at least 1 foot deep to get total	Prevent infestations by eliminating food and moisture resources
	indoxacarb	Arilon (20%) ¹	insecticidal penetration to the	surrounding the structure.
	cypermethrin Permethrin	Demon Max (25.3%) ¹ Prelude (25.6%) ¹	walks, etc., are drilled at 12-inch	 Repair structural and plumbing leaks.
		Troude (25.0%)	intervals and the chemical injected under pressure. Caution must be taken not to damage heat pipes, vapor barriers, etc., located under the slab. Note that for most liquid termiticide formulations the label application rate (applied in the trenches) is 4 gallons per 10 liner feet, per	 Pull all mulch and landscaping back at least 6 inches from the foundation.
				 Remove piles of trash and debris from around the home.
tion rate (applied is 4 gallons per 10 foot of depth to the a minimum of 4 feet). The that 4 gal of solutions are foot of depth to the solution of the solutio				 Remove dead tree stumps from the yard.
	foot of depth to the footer (or to a minimum of 4 feet if the footer	Keep firewood stacked away from the structure.		
			is below 4 feet). This means that 4 gal of solution/10 linear ft per foot of depth to the footer is applied on each side of the foundation walls and around all piers	 Make sure downspouts are long enough to direct water away from the foundation.
				Keep gutters clean.
			in a basement or crawlspace. However, Termidor HE (High Efficiency) is a new product that	 Avoid direct wood-to-ground contact when building porches or decks.
		only requires an application rate of 2 gallon per 10 linear feet, per foot of depth to the footer (or to a minimum of two feet). For precon-	 Siding, brick veneer, or foam insulation should not extend below the soil grade. 	
			struction treatment of soil that is to be covered by a concrete slab, the termiticide application volume for all products is still 1 gallon per 10 square feet of soil surface.	Termite control is a job for professional pest control operators. Homeowners do not have the training, experience, or equipment.

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² Used with Sentricon Termite Baiting System

³ Used with Hex-Pro Termite Baiting System

Pests	Pesticide		Application	Nonchemical Control and Remarks
Termites (subterranean)	Baits:		Subterranean termite baits are contained inside of plastic stations that	
(cont.)	diflubenzuron	Advance (0.25%)	are inserted into the soil around the perimeter of a structure. The bait	structure at 10-foot intervals. The intervals may be less in locations where termite activity is known or suspected. Termite stations should be checked on a regular basis (quarterly during the warmer
	novaluron	Trelona ABTS (0.50%)	is formulated in a cellulose matrix so that it is attractive to the forag- ing termites and they carry it back to the nest and feed the rest of the	
	hexaflumuron	Shatter (0.5%)		
	noviflumuron	Recruit IV (0.5%)	colony. Termite baits may take several months to work because the	seasons) to determine if a station has been "hit" and additional
		Recruit HD (0.5%)	termites have to encounter them	stations or more bait is needed.
		Recruit IV AG (0.5%)	while foraging through the soil. They is no way of directing their foraging behavior. Termite baits tend to work best in shallow, sandy soil where the termites foraging tunnels do not run below the bait stations (~10 ").	
	Termite bait formulations con active ingredients known as synthesis inhibitors (CSI). The insecticides disrupt the insection ability to molt properly so that die in the process of shedding their skins during their growtless.		Termite bait formulations contain active ingredients known as chitin synthesis inhibitors (CSI). These insecticides disrupt the insect's ability to molt properly so that they die in the process of shedding their skins during their growth period. The ultimate result is colony elimination.	
Powderpost	disodium octaborate tetrahydrate	BoraCare (40%)	If the infestation is confined	Controlling powderpost beetle and old house borer infestations is a job for a professional pest control
beetles (and old		Tim-bor (98%)	to a small area, removal and replacement of the infested	
house borers)		Jecta (40%)	wood is recommended. It the infestation is widespread, a professional pest control operator can apply a surface treatment or injection treatment. With surface treatment, liquid insecticide is applied to unfinished wood or emergence holes where wood dust is seen. Surface application will kill adult beetles and the insecticide formulation will continue to penetrate the wood to kill larvae. Injection treatment consists of drilling the wood and injecting the product into the drilled holes. The injection treatment will kill beetle larvae in the wood and will deter re-infestation for several years.	operator. Painting wood surfaces will prevent beetles from reinfesting wood but will not prevent existing larvae from continuing to feed inside the wood and later emerging as adults.

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Table 6.2 - Recommended Insecticide Use (cont.)

Pests	Pesticide		Application	Nonchemical Control and Remarks	
Carpenter	Baits, aerosols, insecticide sprays:		Outdoor nests are typically found	The most specific and effective	
ants	abamectin	B- Advance Granular (0.011%)	in hollow trees, wood piles, or landscaping timbers near the home. Nests in structural wood	carpenter ant baits are available only from a professional pest control operator. However, boric acid bait	
	thiamethoxam	Optigard ant gel bait (0.01%)	are often found in moist areas like basements and crawl spaces. If the nest is found and can be exposed	formulations labelled for carpenter ant control (Terro®; 5.4%) can significantly reduce the foraging	
	fipronil	Combat Max gel bait (0.001%)	with minimal damage to the structure, insecticide sprays can be used to destroy the colony. If the nest cannot be located or exposed, baiting is the most effective means of carpenter ant control.	population.	
	Perimeter treat	ments:	Apply a perimeter spray around	The perimeter spray should be	
	indoxacarb	Arilon (20%) ¹	the base of a structure. The spray typically is applied ~3 or more feet	applied by a pest-management professional with the proper	
	fipronil	Termidor 80 WG (80%) ¹	up the side of the structure, and to the soil or landscaping ~3 or more feet around the structure. However, the application area will change by product so you must read the label.		
	imidacloprid	Premise 75 (75%) ¹		application should last all season. Note that perimeter pesticide	
	lambda- cyhalothrin	Demand CS (9.7%) ¹		application laws have recently changed to protect ground water and pollinating insects. Pesticide can no longer be applied along concrete surfaces where there is risk of storm run-off. Also pesticide cannot be applied when pollinators are present. Read all pesticide labels carefully.	
Carpenter	Sprays and dusts:		Apply insecticide to the entry	Leave treated galleries open for 24 to 48 hours to ensure adult bees	
bees Note: Male	cyfluthrin	Tempo 1% Dust (1%) ¹	- holes or galleries as soon as bee activity is observed (spring and	contact treated galleries. Afterward (48 hours), gallery entrance holes	
bees cannot sting. Female bees will	lambda- cyhalothrin	LambdaStar UltraCap (9.7%)¹	early summer).	can be sealed with putty or caulk.	
only sting if intentionally	imidacloprid	Premise 2 (21.4%) ¹			
provoked.	Site Treatment:		Apply spray to areas known or suspected to be targets of carpen-	The Premise label allows for preventative application to building	
	deltamethrin	Delta Dust (0.05%) and D-Fense Dust (0.05%)	ter bees (e.g. soffits and eaves). Be aware that we are trying to protect our pollinators so when applying any type of insecticide for	surfaces (soffits, eaves, trim, etc.) as part of an exterior spot treatment. Carpenter bees are territorial, often returning to wood that they infested in previous years. Therefore, applications should be made to these areas in early summer, or as soon as bee activity is observed. Contact your professional pest control company if you have a recurring infestation.	
	lambda- cyhalothrin	Cyzmic CS (9.3%) and PT221L (0.05%)	bee control, be careful not to let any pesticides drift onto flowers or other locations where non-carpen-		
	disodium octoborate tetrahydrate	Tim-Bor Dust (98%)	ter bees will visit.		

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6-8	Nuisance Insects of the House and Yard: Wood-Destroying Insects			

Household Insects

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Improving the sanitation and maintenance in and around the home is the best way to prevent household insect and spider pests. Outdoor clutter and debris that harbor pests should be removed. Pest entry should be reduced by sealing holes and cracks around plumbing lines and windows. Indoors, proper sanitation, food storage, reducing clutter, and waste removal will deprive pests of food and water resources. All of these measures will make the home inhospitable to pests thus limiting their population growth.

Bat Bugs

Prevention: Bat bugs inside a structure are typically the result of bats or birds roosting in the attic. If the bat bug population becomes very large, bugs will start to become a nuisance inside the home. Frequently, however, bat bugs become a problem after a bird or bat population has been removed from a structure. Bat bugs remaining in the empty roost no longer have a host to feed on so they move into the living space to feed on people. The best way to prevent a bat bug infestation is by eliminating access points around the structure to keep bats or birds from roosting inside. If a population of bats or birds has to be removed from a home, an effort should be made to clean out the nests and droppings (guano) left behind. Cleaning should only be performed while wearing a respirator because of the toxic fungal spores and bacteria associated with bat guano and bird droppings.

Control: Inspect locations where bat bugs have been seen, starting with electrical connections coming through the ceilings, then around the edges of the carpet, between the floorboards, and in drop ceilings, if applicable. Caulk and seal all openings that would allow bat bugs access to human living space. Vacuum the floors and closets thoroughly. Treat all areas where bat bugs are found with a labeled insecticide. A combination of insecticide products should be used simultaneously. Diatomaceous earth dust or another desiccant dust combined with a crack and crevice treatment is the best approach. All of these treatments should be applied by a professional.

Bed Bugs

Prevention: Bed bugs are becoming an increasingly serious problem in the United States. To prevent infestations that might result from housing visitors, staying at a friend's home or travel, always inspect the mattress in your sleeping room for signs of bed bug infestation (live bugs or black speck-like feces in the mattress seams and tufts) prior to unpacking or sleeping in the bed. In the home the removal of hiding places (clutter) will make the environment less hospitable for bed bugs and much easier to treat with insecticides. It is essential that furniture, clothing, boxes, or other personal effects NOT be moved from an infested location to an uninfested location. Moving these items will simply spread the infestation because it is very difficult to determine if an item is free of all immature bed bugs and bed bug eggs. It is also important that you not bring other people's furniture, used furniture, or other peoples' belongings into your home unless you know they are bed bug free.

Control using heat: Because bed bugs and their eggs are unable to withstand temperatures above 122°F, properly executed heat treatments are very effective in killing bed bugs and controlling infestations. Heat treatments can be applied as whole-room, whole-home, and chamber treatments. Unfortunately, many of the smaller whole home heat treatment systems have proven to be inadequate when it comes to producing enough heat to kill all bed bugs in the home. In addition, the most effective whole homes heat systems are prohibitively expensive for smaller pest management companies to purchase. Therefore, it is very important for resident to require a detailed temperature report (taken from heat sensors placed in hard to heat locations and showing that those areas reached 122 degrees F), as documentation of their heat treatment efficacy.

Control in beds and bedding: All bedding should be dried in a clothes dryer for at least 30 minutes at a high temperature (130°F). Mattresses can be steam-cleaned or washed thoroughly with soap and water and left outside to dry. If washing or steam-cleaning is not possible, insecticide products that are labeled for mattress treatment can be applied to the mattress to kill the bed bugs. After cleaning or treating a mattress with an insecticide, it should be encased in a bed bug-proof mattress encasement to prevent any surviving bed bugs from getting off the mattress and biting. Encasing the mattress will also prevent it from becoming reinfested with any bed bugs still in the room. Box springs are a popular harborage for bed bugs. To treat the box springs, remove and discard the cloth backing to provide access to the inner frame. Then, you can treat the inside of the wood frame and along the slats and bedsprings with a labeled insecticide. Cover box springs with a bed bug-proof mattress encasement after treatment. Inspect the headboard and bed frame for bed bugs. Remove (either by vacuuming or with an adhesive lint roller) or kill any live bugs that are found, then treat the headboard and bed frame with an desiccant dust insecticide, following all label instructions.

Control in infested rooms: Inspect the room thoroughly by looking around the edges of the carpet, between the floorboards, behind photos or posters on the wall, along the door frames around closets, inside shoes that are worn infrequently, and in any other cracks or crevices where bed bugs could be hiding. Remove or kill any live bed bugs that are found (either by vacuuming or with an adhesive lint roller). In areas where bed bug evidence (cast skins, feces, or live bugs) is found, remove all clothing and linens, placing them in a sealed plastic bag until they can be put into a hot dryer. Carefully inspect all personal items from areas where you found bed bug evidence. Portable heat chambers are now available for treating personal items and pieces of furniture. Dispose of unnecessary or unsalvageable items by taking them outside and prepare the rest for cleaning or treatment with an appropriately labeled insecticide. Treat furniture and other areas with a labeled insecticide. It is recommended that a combination of insecticide products be used simultaneously. A crack and crevice treatment and a long term residual desiccant dust insecticide in wall voids is the best approach. The infested location should be treated at least three times at two-week intervals. All of these treatments should be applied by a professional.

Keep in mind that bed bug treatment is very difficult. Most pest management professionals have only recently learned how to treat for bed bugs. Also, there are a limited number of products labeled for bed bug treatment and many only work by spraying the bed bug directly. There are even fewer low toxicity products that can be applied to mattresses or bedding. Bed bugs are hard to locate, hard to kill, and can live for several months without feeding so clutter removal, vigilance (monitoring), and patience are absolutely necessary when attempting to control this pest.

Red Imported Fire Ants (RIFA)

Red imported fire ants (RIFA) rarely nest indoors, but if they do, you should call a professional pest control operator immediately. It has been documented that RIFA tend to enter structures during periods of heavy precipitation. RIFA are extremely aggressive and respond rapidly to any disturbance of the nest or a food resource. RIFA in structures can be very dangerous for small children or the elderly. A number of deaths have resulted from children or bedridden elderly adults being stung repeatedly by fire ants. Nursing homes and day care center need to be particularly vigilant about keeping fire ants controlled both indoors and out (See Insects in Recreational Areas).

Red imported fire ant (RIFA) colonies can be found throughout the southeastern United States from Texas through Florida, extending as far north as Oklahoma and Virginia. In 2009, cities (Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Poquoson, Portsmouth, Suffolk, Virginia Beach and Williamsburg) and several counties (James City and York) in Virginia were placed under the Federal Fire Ant Quarantine. In 2019, this quarantine was expanded to include the counties of Brunswick, Greensville, Isle of Wight, Mecklenburg, Southhampton; and the cities of Emporia and Franklin. This quarantine means that the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) will no longer be responsible for treating fire ant mounds in those areas. Fire ant control will now be the responsibility of those citizens living in the quarantine locations. A map (as of 2017 only) of all quarantined locations within the U.S. may be viewed at https://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/fireants/downloads/fireant.pdf. In Virginia, RIFA colonies are now established throughout Hampton Roads. Individual RIFA colonies have also been documented in the greater Richmond area and as far west as Montgomery County. Note that RIFA infestations occurring outside of the quarantined areas in Virginia should still be reported to the VDACS Office of Plant & Pest Services at (804) 786-3515 or visit the VDACS website at https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/plant-industry-services-fire-ant-suppressioneand-eradication.shtml.

For more detailed information see the Red Imported Fire Ant (RIFA) publication: https://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/444/444-284/html.

Controlling Insects

Table 6	Table 6.3 - Recommended Use						
Pests	Prevention	Pesticide		Application			
Ants	Eliminate food materials that attract ants into home. Follow good sanitary practices. Perimeter sprays and granular bait formulations applied by a professional pest control operator will significantly reduce pest entry.	Perimeter Sprays: fipronil imidacloprid indoxacarb lambda-cyhalothrin	Termidor 80 WG (80%) ¹ Premise 75 (75%) ¹ Arilon (0.1%) ¹ Demand CS (9.7%) ¹	For colony control: Identify the type 2 of ant and use a bait labeled for that species. Ants are finicky and may prefer a sweet or a protein-based bait. Indoors: Spray baseboards, cracks, door frames, and window sills.			

¹ Professional Use: These products are not restricted use but are designated as professional use because they are more potent and require specialized training, application equipment, or personal protective equipment that make them unsuitable for homeowner applications.

² Professional Use Outdoors

³ Home Use

Pests	3 - Recommended Use Prevention	Pesticide		Application	
				Pesticide applications to lady beetle entry points outside of the home need	
Asian lady beetles	Seal all possible routes of entry, screen vents, and install	Micro-cap formulation:			
	door sweeps. Vacuum up live	пртогш	Termidor 80 WG	to be made the first week of October	
	lady beetles that make their way indoors and dispose of	imidacloprid	Premise 75 (75%) ¹²	to be effective. If lady beetles are	
	the bag outdoors.	indoxacarb	Arilon (0.1%) ¹	already entering the home, pesticide applications will not prevent their entry	
	v	lambda-cyhalothrin	Demand CS (0.03%) ¹	although they may die once inside.	
Bat bugs	The best way to prevent a bat	Professional-use R	esidual Products	All of these treatments should be	
	bug infestation is by eliminat- ing access points around the structure to keep bats or birds	Baseboard sprays:	Talstar P (0.06%) ¹	¬applied by a professional. Treat all areas where bat bugs are found with a labeled insecticide. A combination of	
	from roosting inside. Bat bugs	deltamethrin	Suspend SC (0.06%) ¹	insecticide products should be used	
	can become a problem after a	lambda-cyhalothrin	Demand CS (0.03%) ¹	simultaneously. A desiccant dust com	
	bird or bat population has been removed from a structure. Bat	Crack and crevice:	,	bined with a crack and crevice treat-	
	bugs remaining in the empty	bifenthrin	Talstar P (0.06%)1	ment is the best approach.	
	roost no longer have a host to feed on so they move into the	deltamethrin	Suspend SC (0.06%) ¹		
	living space to feed on people.	lambda-cyhalothrin	Demand CS (0.03%) ¹		
	See previous pages for more	Wall Voids:	MatharEarth D (100%)		
	information.	diatomaceous earth silica gel	MotherEarth D (100%) CimeXa (100%)		
Bed bugs	Although bed bugs cannot	Professional-use Residual Products		At this time, there is no single control product for bed bugs that	
beu bugs	be eliminated by removing	Crack and crevice:			
	clutter, limiting the available hiding places will make the	bifenthrin	Talstar P (0.06%) ¹	will eliminate an infestation except	
	environment less hospitable	deltamethrin	Suspend SC (0.06%) ¹	fumigation, with sulfuryl fluroide. Bed bug treatment requires a variety of sanitation and exclusion methods as well as insecticide products be applied to infested rooms. These treatments will need to be applied multiple times, and at regular intervals. Use	
	for bed bugs and much eas-	beta-cyfluthrin	Tempo SC Ultra		
	ier to treat with insecticides. It is essential that furniture, clothing, boxes, or other per-	•	$(0.05\%)^1$		
		lambda-cyhalothrin	Demand CS (0.03%) ¹		
	sonal effects NOT be moved from an infested location	Beauveria bassiana	Aprehend (2.0%)		
	to an uninfested location. Moving these items will simply spread the infestation as it is very difficult to determine if an item is free of all immature bed bugs and bed bug eggs. See previous pages for	Combination products:		pitfall type monitors (i.e. Climb Up or	
		acetamiprid bifenthrin	Transport GHP (0.11%) ¹	BlackOut) to monitor for bed bugs	
		imidacloprid phenothrin	Bedlam Plus (0.4%; 0.05%) ¹	where people are getting bitten but no bugs are seen.	
		lambda-cyhalothrin thiamethoxam	Tandem (0.13%) ¹		
	more information.	beta-cyfluthrin	Temprid SC (0.15%)		
		imidacloprid metoflutrin, clothianidin, PBO	Crossfire (1.42%)		
		Pressurized insecticides:			
		dinotefuran	PT Alpine		
		chlorfenapyr phenothrin	PT Phantom Bedlam (0.4%) ¹		
		Desiccant dusts: diatomaceous earth	PT Alpine		
		dinotefuran	,		
		diatomaceous earth silica gel	MotherEarth D (100%) CimeXa™ (100%)		

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² Professional Use Outdoors

 $^{^{\}rm 3}$ Home Use

Pests	Prevention	Pesticide		Application
Boxelder bugs	Collect in vacuum cleaner or by broom and dust pan, and destroy. Plug openings	Biopesticides: Beauveria bassiana	Aprehend 2.0%	Indoors: Vacuum individual insects when they appear. Outdoors: Apply preventative perim-
	in window sashes to pre-	Perimeter applications:		eter spray mid to late August.
	vent entry. Caulk cracks, etc. Spray only in areas inaccessible to children and pets.	lambda-cyhalothrin fipronil	Demand CS (0.03%) ¹ Termidor 80 WG (0.06%) ¹²	Note that perimeter pesticide appli- cation laws have recently changed to protect ground water and pollinat- ing insects. Pesticide can no longer
		deltamethrin	Suspend SC (0.06%) ¹	be applied along concrete surfaces
		indoxacarb	Arilon (0.1%) ¹	where there is risk of storm run-off. Also pesticides cannot be applied when pollinators are present. Read all pesticide labels carefully.
Brown mar- morated stink bugs (BMSB)	Stink bugs begin aggregating on structures soon after the first cool day in September. Prior to September, plug open-	Perimeter application (1st week of Septem indoxacarb		Indoors: Vacuum up individual insects, but be aware stink bugs will make the vacuum smell strongly of their odor.
	ings in windows and vents that could provide the bugs with entry to the structure.	bifenthrin acetamiprid	Transport GHP (0.11%) ¹	Outdoor: Well-timed perimeter applications may help to reduce bugs indoors, but cannot eliminate entry in most cases. Note that perimeter pesticide application laws have recently changed to protect ground water and pollinating insects. Pesticide can no longer be applied along concrete surfaces whe there is risk of storm run-off. Also peticides cannot be applied when pollin tors are present. Read all pesticide labels carefully.
Carpet beetles	Follow good housekeeping practices. Most infestations result from spilled dry pet food in cupboards and other storage locations. Clean hot air registers and cold air ducts. Use vacuum cleaner regularly. Frequently remove and destroy disposable vacuum cleaner bag. Never allow clothing, rugs, etc., to lie in a pile neglected over a period of time.	Preventative: Naphthalene residual Pyrethroid microencapsulation or wettable powder	0.015-0.03%	Indoors: Treat rugs and carpets (including baseboards) evenly and lightly in areas of infestations. Store only previously cleaned clothing, etc., in air-tight closets or containers.
Clothes moths	Follow good housekeeping practices. Clothing should be throroughly brushed and hung outside in the sunlight. Dry-cleaning kills these pests. Prevent dust and lint from accumulating. Clean hot air registers and cold air ducts. Use vacuum cleaner regularly. Frequently remove and destroy disposable vacuum cleaner bag. Never allow clothing, rugs, etc., to lie in a pile neglected.	Preventative: Naphthalene residual		Indoors: Store only previously cleaned clothing in air-tight closets and containers. Use moth crystals, balls, or flakes in garment bags and closets where clothes are kept. Replace periodically.

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² Professional Use Outdoors

³ Home Use

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² Professional Use Outdoors

³ Home Use

	- Recommended Use	, ,		
Pests	Prevention	Pesticide		Application
Drain Flies	Sanitation is the best control measure. Clean away the	Aerosol sprays Drain cleaners: Bacterial foam products		Indoors: Use aerosols for adult fly control. For control of fly larvae in infested drains, use a bacterial
	gelatinous film (biofilm) from			
	inside drains; clean garbage			drain treatment product to eliminate
	containers regularly. Do not allow wet lint to accumulate			breeding sites. To clean drains after treatment, use a stiff brush and
	under washing machines.			hot water to remove any remaining
	Avoid moist organic debris of any nature, especially in the			biofilm. Bacterial biofoam products are ideal for use because the foam can fill
	basement.			fly breeding spaces that brushes and
				gels cannot access. Leave the foam ir place for several hours prior to rinsing
Earwigs	Remove excessive clutter from	Perimeter Spray:		Remove all mulch, plant debris, and
Laiwigs	the ground around the outside		A-:L (O 40/)1	organic material from around foun-
	of house. Items such as tarps,	indoxacarb	Arilon (0.1%) ¹	dation to reduce moisture.
	boards, and firewood provide harborage for earwigs. Bait	lambda-cyhalothrin fipronil	Demand CS (0.03%) ¹ Termidor 80 WG	
	areas where earwigs are found		(0.06%) ^{1, 2}	
	most commonly. If a number of earwigs are found aggregating	imidacloprid	Temprid SC (0.15%)	
	indoors, remove them with a	b-cyfluthrin		
	vacuum and clean the area with soap and water. Cleaning will remove the pheromone			
	chemicals that will attract other			
	earwigs.			
Fleas	tablets for pets are by far the most effective way of eliminating fleas and ticks. Regular applications (1/	Spot-on treatments (available at local animal clinics)		Indoors: Apply insect growth regulators to carpets in rooms where
Note: Resistance		spinetoram, Cheristin	Advantage II	flea infestation is apparent. Apply
to spot-on		fipronil (s)-methoprene		desiccant dusts in larval habitats like carpet edges and pet bedding Apply in animals' sleeping quar-
products is		selamectin	Revolution	
starting to	indoor flea problems. NEVER APPLY DOG FLEA	Tablets:		ters and replace old bedding with
prevalent in	PRODUCTS ON CATS. THIS	nitenpyram	Capstar (cats & dogs)	clean, fresh, untreated bedding.
fleas; how-	CAN RESULT IN DEATH.	Dogs only:	NewCand	Outdoors: Treat infested areas
ever, treat- ing the pet is		afoxolaner sarolaner	NexGard	of lawn, under dog houses (thoroughly clean the inside of dog
still the most		sarolaner, moxidectin,	Simparica Simparica Trio	houses regularly), and under
effective		and pyrantel	Olimpanica Trio	porches with an insect growth
method of flea control at	İ	lotilaner	Credelio	regulator.
this time.		fluralaner	Bravecto	
		Collars:		
		flumethrin	Seresto	
		imidacloprid		
		Indoors: (Insect growt	• ,	
		Nylar™	Surge (1.3%)	
		(s)-methoprene	Precor IGR Concentrate (1.2%)	
		pyriproxyfen	Archer (1.3%)	
		Desiccant dusts	. ,	
		Outdoors:		
		pyriproxyfen	Archer (1.3%)	
		esfenvalerate	Virbac Yard Spray (0.44%))

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² Professional Use Outdoors

³ Home Use

Table 6.3 - Recommended Use (cont.)					
Pests	Prevention	Pesticide	Application		
Flies	Good sanitation and tightly fitting screens and garbage can lids are sound preventative control measures. Use of fly swatter is still practical. Do not contaminate food or utensils with insecticides. Bag pet waste before putting in garbage pails.	Residual formulations: microencapsulated or wettable powder Quick knockdown: labeled pyrethroid aerosol sprays	Indoors: Use an aerosol spray for direct application when flies are present. Fly lights should be used in commercial kitchens. Outdoors: Apply to walls adjacent to dumpsters or other breeding sites. Light traps used outdoors will catch flies, but they also may attract flies in from other areas.		
Flour, Grain beetles	Discard infested foods and keep uninfested food in containers with tightly-fitting lids	None	Indoors: Thoroughly clean infested shelves. Cover shelves with clean, fresh shelf paper or foil.		
Long- horned beetle	These beetles frequently hitchhike into the home via firewood. It is wise to store firewood outdoors to prevent beetle emergence in the home.	None	Indoors: Usually, individual beetles can simply be picked up with a vacuum cleaner and then discarded.		
Millipedes	Indoors: Millipedes that stray into the home can be picked up with the vacuum, or they can be collected with a broom and dust pan, and then be discarded. Outdoors: Remove sources of moisture such as excessive mulch, decaying grass, leaves, etc., from around the house foundation. Double-sided tape placed along entryways can limit access into the structure.	microencapsulations wettable powder dusts in drier areas	Indoors: Use aerosol sprays on individual millipedes. Outdoors: Spraying pest entry sites may help, but outdoor applications during a mass millipede migration will do little to stop their numbers.		
Mosquitoes	Maintain good, tight- fitting screens on windows and doors. Remove or frequently empty any containers on the premises that may hold rainwater. Clean out clogged roof gutters holding stagnant water. Backyard garden ponds can be stocked with predatory fish that feed on mosquito larvae.	Aerosol sprays Repellents for personal protection	Indoors: Use aerosol sprays according to label directions. Repellent: Use Deet or ethyl hexanediol aerosol according to the directions. Outdoors: Homeowner applications of mosquito control measures outdoors are discouraged due to concerns over water contamination and the impact on non-target animals.		

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² Professional Use Outdoors

³ Home Use

Pests	Prevention	Pesticide		Application
Pantry and stored-food pests	Either throw away the infested items or kill the insects by placing the food item in a heated oven (130 degree F) for 30 min. Alternatively, infested food can be placed in a freezer (0 degrees F) for 4 days. Store un-infested foods in plastic or glass containers with tight fitting lids.	Aerosol sprays Boric acid powder		Indoors: Remove all items from the infested location and thoroughly clean shelves. Labeled insecticides may be sprayed into cracks and crevices. Cover shelves with clean, fresh paper or foil before placing packages or food in the cupboard.
Red imported fire ants (RIFA)	RIFA rarely nest indoors, but if they do, call a pest management professional immediately.	Outdoors: Baits		For colony control outdoors: See Insects in Recreational Areas, p. 6-1. For indoor infestation, call a pest management professional immediately.
Silverfish	Remove potential sources of food and moisture. Seal cracks and crevices. Remove books, papers, and boxes that have been stored for long periods.	Residual formulations: Pyrethroid sprays		Infestations tend to be localized. Apply treatment to suspected harborage areas. Habitat modification can greatly enhance control.
Sowbugs	Reduce or eliminate moist areas around the home. Remove leaf piles, grass clippings, old boards, and excess ground cover. Caulk cracks around home foundation.	Dessiccant dusts		Indoors: desiccant dusts may be used along exterior doorways and basement windows (on the inside) to prevent entry".
Spiders	Spiders can be successfully kept out of the house by careful screening, secure caulking, etc. Practically all spiders in Virginia are harmless. Exceptions are the black widow and brown recluse spiders, which are poisonous. Note that the brown recluse spider is not native to	Repellents for personal protection Vacuum		Indoors: Remove spiders, egg sacs, and webs with a vacuum. Seal and dispose of the bag immediately. Appropriately labeled dusts may be used if desired. Outdoors: Remove clutter and debris in the yard where spiders can hide. Turn off outdoor lights at night. Lights attract insects that spiders use as food.
	Virginia." Bites (and other wounds) of many kinds are often misdiagnosed by medical doctors as brown recluse spider bites.			
Ticks	Keep grass cut to 3 inches or less. Trim vegetation along yard edges, paths, and trails. Remove garbage and wood piles to discourage rodent activity.	carbaryl pyrethroid sprays fipronil permethrin	Sevin Dust (5.0%) Tick Box Tick Control System tick tubes	Outdoors: Treat under dog houses. Applications to large outdoor areas are impractical because ticks are often concentrated in spot locations.
Wasps and hornets	Remove nest when no activity is observed. If the nest is fairly large, call a professional!	Aerosol sprays Wasp and hornet kille		Outdoors: Locate nest entrance during the day. Treat nest at night when most insects are inside. Wear protective clothing.

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