

OCEAN COUNTY MOSQUITO COMMISSION

Summary of Mosquito Control Activities for the Holgate Area in 2020

The Ocean County Mosquito Commission is currently operating with a full staff, as we are an essential government agency responsible for protecting the public's health. Aerial inspection of our saltmarshes will continue at least twice a week and mosquito landing rate counts will continue to be taken five days a week.

WHAT'S NEW IN 2020:

The Mosquito Commission will be treating the ground-based mosquito breeding sites on Long Beach Island with a different larvicide this year. The product is called Altosid P-35, which is an extended release larvicide that offers up to 35 days of control for mosquito larvae. Altosid P-35 is a granular pesticide that is applied by a backpack sprayer. The granules are more effective at penetrating dense vegetation that could block standing water from a liquid spray. Additionally, the extended release component of this product allows our inspectors to make one application that will last for over a month, regardless how many times a site dries and refloods. The active ingredient for Altosid P-35 is methoprene, a growth regulator, that prohibits adult mosquito emergence.

For our aerial program, we are starting to use another granular product, VectoPrime FG, on the Holgate Unit of the Forsythe National Refuge. Our inspectors have noticed that there is more standing water on the higher or thicker vegetated marsh than in the past. The switch from liquid to granular larvicide would simply achieve better coverage. In addition, VectoPrime FG has two active ingredients for controlling mosquitoes, which gives an added security in case one of the actives would fail to offer control. The active ingredients of VectoPrime FG are Bti (*Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis*) and Methoprene.

LOOKING AHEAD:

The Ocean County Mosquito Commission is very excited to be utilizing new products and new techniques this season to achieve our mission. We will be monitoring our applications closely to ensure we are getting effective mosquito control and making sure these new larvicides are doing their job. As always, if there are any questions about our program, we can be reached at (609) 698-8271 or at ocmosquito@comcast.net by email.