

Invited Presentation Articles

An Industry Perspective on Atomizers and Chemicals

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Drift mitigation has a totally different meaning in vector control. Many of the same application parameters that have been studied to reduce drift with agricultural formulations are quite often used in reverse to insure mosquito adulticide formulations are effective. Larvicide applications are made using formulations that can penetrate vegetation or are applied when conditions favor spray droplets reaching bodies of water rather than vegetation or other traditional target sites. It's a safe bet that the mosquito control industry formulates and applies insecticides in a manner inconsistent with traditional agricultural uses.

This industry is tiny compared to their agrichemical counterparts. The number and amount of insecticides used in agriculture today far outstrip what is applied for both adult and larval mosquito control around the world. As such, development of new active ingredients specifically designed for adult or larval mosquito control is not considered a prudent investment in today's economic uncertainty.

Protecting the general public from mosquito borne diseases and to support a quality outdoor experience for a society that demands careful environmental stewardship is a difficult challenge. To be successful, the mosquito control industry must resort to development of innovative formulation and application technologies of existing active ingredients that enhance mosquito management while limiting environmental impact.

This presentation will review what this industry is doing to support and maintain this development effort during a time when mosquito control is needed more than ever.