

Mosquito 101: ADULTICIDING

First, a bit of history. "Fogging" has been around since the 30s, maybe earlier. Taking a chemical pesticide, adding Diesel or Kerosene, heating this mixture to 1200 degrees Fahrenheit, and producing a robust, thick "chemical fog" to combat flying insects, namely mosquitos and flies. Hence the name, "Thermal Fogging" It was very impressive to see.

Some where along the way, somebody had the idea of blasting BHC(Benzene Hexachloride) dust out of a turbine blower to control the flying pest's. Can you imagine trying that today?

Fast forward to the late 60s and the birth of "Cold Aerosol Fogging". Dr Gary Mount is credited with the development of the ULV(Ultra Low Volume) Fogger. Taking a concentrated pesticide, at a low volume flow rate, and a blast of air to create tiny droplets that are quite lethal to flying insects. Since the "Cold Fog" is not heated like thermal fogging, the chemical molecule remains in tack and produces a more lethal droplet.

What does effective Adulticiding look like? Below are some rules of Adulticiding that should be adhered to if we want to be successful at controlling the flying pests.

1. Equipment calibration and fog droplet size
2. Wind should be below 10mph
3. Vehicle speed is critical to dosage rate
4. Temperature inversion(never make an application without this taking place) Time of application is critical.
5. Presence of mosquitos. ULV applications do not repel or scare away mosquitos. A ULV application is curative, not preventative.