Message

From: Daguillard, Robert [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BBE9682B940C4F2C90732E4D37355DD4-DAGUILLARD,]
Sent: 11/24/2017 6:39:31 PM
To: Chris Garofolo [Ex. 6]
CC: Press [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b293283291dc44e0b5d1c36be9281d8a-Press]
Subject: RE: Press: Mosquito questions

Chris, for attribution to "an EPA spokesperson," please:

It does seem like this is largely untested, but could this be an effective method for fighting mosquito-borne illnesses?

Response:

For three years prior to the registration application, MosquitoMate tested the ZAP Males® in select locations in the U.S. under a number of EPA-issued experimental use permits (EUP). Details including, location, timing, and length of the individual EUPs can be found on regulations.gov by searching under docket number EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0254.

At the end of these trial periods, results demonstrated that the product is able to reduce Asian Tiger Mosquito populations.

ZAP Males® affect only Asian Tiger Mosquitoes *(Aedes albopictus*). This species can carry numerous viruses that are of human health concern, such as Zika, West Nile, Dengue, Chikungunya, and Yellow Fever.

Has this proven to infect females? Are are any side effects on humans?

Response:

No, the male's strain of *Wolbachia* will not transfer to the female. Only male "ZAP" strain Wolbachia- infected mosquitos are being released into the environment, and males do not bite people. Only female mosquitoes bite people. People will not be exposed to the bacteria as a result of the release of these mosquitoes.

Happy Black Friday, R.

Robert Daguillard
Office of Media Relations
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, DC
+1 (202) 564-6618 (O)
Ex. 6

From: Chris Garofolo [Ex. 6]
Sent: Friday, November 24, 2017 10:32 AM
To: Daguillard, Robert <Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Press: Mosquito questions

Great, thank you!

On Fri, Nov 24, 2017 at 9:15 AM, Daguillard, Robert <Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov> wrote:

Good morning, Chris. Let me see what we can do.

Robert Daguillard
U.S. EPA
Office of Media Relations
Washington D.C.
Ex. 6
202-564-6618 (O)

On Nov 24, 2017, at 8:53 AM, Chris Garofolo Ex. 6 wrote:

> Hi Robert,
> Would it be possible to obtain a few answers today? I was able to get the deadline pushed back and would love to hear from the EPA.
> Thanks and Happy Holidays!
> Best,
> Chris G.
>
> On Tue, Nov 21, 2017 at 10:08 AM, Daguillard, Robert <Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov> wrote:
>
> > On it. Thanks, Chris.
> >
> > **From:** Chris Garofolo Ex. 6
> > **Sent:** Tuesday, November 21, 2017 9:36 AM
> > **To:** Daguillard, Robert <Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov>
> > **Subject:** Re: Press: Mosquito questions
> >
> > Morning, Robert.
> >
> > Thanks for getting back to me. I did see the release from earlier this month, but I did have a few follow-ups as a result.
> >
> > It does seem like this is largely untested, but could this be an effective method for fighting mosquito-borne illnesses? Has this proven to infect females? Are are any side effects on humans?
> >
> > Thanks!
> >
> > On Tue, Nov 21, 2017 at 9:31 AM, Daguillard, Robert <Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov> wrote:
> >
> > > Good morning Chris,
> > >
> > > The following listserv, which EPA's pesticides program sent November 7, should prove helpful. Let me know if you have any additional questions.

Cheers, R.

EPA Pesticide Program Updates

From EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs

www.epa.gov/pesticides

November 7, 2017

In This Update:

EPA Registers the Wolbachia ZAP Strain in Live Male Asian Tiger Mosquitoes

On November 3, 2017, EPA registered a new mosquito biopesticide – ZAP Males® - that can reduce local populations of the type of mosquito (*Aedes albopictus*, or Asian Tiger Mosquitoes) that can spread numerous diseases of significant human health concern, including the Zika virus.

ZAP Males® are live male mosquitoes that are infected with the ZAP strain, a particular strain of the *Wolbachia* bacterium. Infected males mate with females, which then produce offspring that do not survive. (Male mosquitoes do not bite people.) With continued releases of the ZAP Males®, local *Aedes albopictus* populations decrease. *Wolbachia* are naturally occurring bacteria commonly found in most insect species.

This time-limited registration allows MosquitoMate, Inc. to sell the *Wolbachia*-infected male mosquitoes for five years in the District of Columbia and the following states: California, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Maine, Maryland, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Nevada, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Vermont, and West Virginia. Before the ZAP Males® can be used in each of those jurisdictions, it must be registered in the state or district.

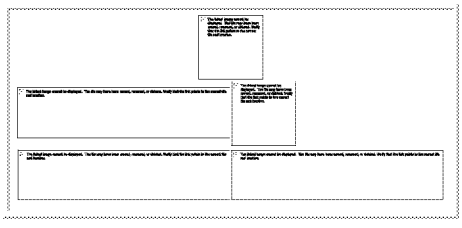
When the five-year time limit ends, the registration will expire unless the registrant requests further action from EPA.

EPA's risk assessments, along with the pesticide labeling, EPA's response to public comments on the Notice of Receipt, and the proposed registration decision, can be found on www.regulations.gov under docket number EPA-HQ-OPP-2016-0205.

EPA distributes its Pesticide Program Updates to external stakeholders and citizens who have expressed an interest in the agency's pesticide program activities and decisions. This update service is part of EPA's continuing effort to improve public access to federal pesticide information.

For general questions about pesticides and pesticide poisoning prevention, contact the National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC), by email at npic@ace.orst.edu or, by visiting http://npic.orst.edu.

For information about ongoing activities in the Office of Pesticide Programs, visit our homepage at: https://www.epa.gov/pesticides



From: Chris Garofolo [redacted] Ex. 6
Sent: Tuesday, November 21, 2017 9:25 AM
To: Daguillard, Robert <Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov>
Subject: Press: Mosquito questions

Good afternoon, Robert,
My name is Chris Garofolo and I am a correspondent for the Union Leader in New Hampshire. Recently, I was tossed an article from Nature about a new method of fighting mosquitoes with, well, mosquitoes.
New Hampshire is one of the EPA-approved states for a biotech bacteria to be used on male mosquitoes so when they mate with wild females, the fertilized eggs will not hatch.
It does seem like this is largely untested, but could this be an effective method for fighting mosquito-borne illnesses? Has this proven to infect females? Are are any side effects on humans?
If someone could get back to me back 5 p.m. on Tuesday, I'd appreciate it.
Thanks for the assistance and have a great holiday.
Best,
Chris G.