Mosquito Control Products Workshop

Florida Keys Mosquito Control District

Marathon Office 503 107th Street Marathon, FL 33050

January 21, 2025 1:54 pm

The Board of Commissioners of the Florida Keys Mosquito Control District held a Mosquito Control Products Workshop on January 21, 2025, at the FKMCD Marathon Office.

Present Were: Phillip Goodman, Chairman; Dr. Stanley Zuba, Vice-Chair; Bette Brown, Secretary/Treasurer; Brandon Pinder, Commissioner; Jill Cranney, Commissioner; Andrea Leal, Executive Director; **Hunter O'Connor**, Board Attorney.

Employees Present Were: Mikki Coss, Director of Operations; Bruce Holden, Director of Finance; Michael Behrend, Director of Human Resources; Robert Lee, Director of Aircraft Maintenance; Deanna Darias, Executive Assistant; Tony Nunez, Chief Technology Officer; Dr. Catherine Pruszynski, Research Biologist; Stephanie Faucett, Research Biologist; and Steven Rutherford, Aircraft Support Technician.

Invited Guests Present: None

Approval of Agenda: Chairman Goodman asked the Board if there were any corrections or additions to the agenda, hearing none, the agenda was unanimously approved.

Community Input: None

Chairman Goodman announced that the purpose of this workshop is to discuss the various mosquito control products used throughout the District.

- a. Bacillus thurengiensis israelensis
- b. Bacillus sphaericus
- c. Spinosad
- d. Methoprene
- e. Larvicide oils
- f. Pyrethroids
- g. Organophosphates

Discussion: Director Andrea Leal advised this educational workshop will be on our products that we use in the district and then introduced Mikki Coss, Director of Operations, to start the presentation. The first product that Ms. Coss covered was *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis (Bti)*, which is the most used product in the District. She reviewed the formulations used and the delivery methods. Next up were *Bacillus sphaericus (Bs)* and Spinosad and their formulations and delivery methods. The second speaker was Stephanie Faucett, a Research Biologist, who discussed the District's usage of pyrethroids and larvicide oil, as well as the specifics of each product and how to apply it. We utilize four (4) Pyrethroid products, in response to Chairman Goodman's question. Swamps, floodwater areas, storm sewer catch basins and abandoned swimming pools are a few locations where we may apply the oils.

Dr. Catherine Pruszynski, Research Biologist then presented on the Organophosphates and the three (3) products we use which are Naled, Malathion, and Dochlorvos. These products can have negative effects on bees and aquatic invertebrates and fish, which is why we apply these products when bees are less active and avoid directly treating bodies of water. We work closely with the local beekeepers when we are going to be treating areas with any of these products. She

finished the presentation discussing Methoprene, which is used to treat mosquito larvae. This product has been approved by the World Health Organization to be safe in drinking water and is used widely around the world. Director Leal advised the commissioners that we can do presentations in any of their districts to educate the public about these products and answer any questions. A short discussion was held regarding any new and upcoming products on the market for mosquito control.

Good of the Order: We will not have a workshop next month due to having a guest speaker during the regular meeting.

Adjourn: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Leal
Executive Director

Board of Commissioners

Florida Keys Mosquito Control District

Phillip L. Goodman, Chairman

Bette Brown, Secretary-Treasurer

For additional information, please refer to www.keysmosquito.org.