

Mosquito Control Product

“B.t.i Briquets”

This sheet answers some basic questions about a mosquito control product in use in your county. Somerset County Mosquito Control, along with several other resources (listed at the end of this sheet), can provide more detailed information.

What is Bti and how is it used?

Bti is an insecticide product that is recommended for mosquito control in New Jersey by Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. It contains the pesticide called “*Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis* (Bti).” The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) current evaluation considers **Bti**-containing products to be very slightly toxic with minimal potential risk to people when used properly as part of a complete mosquito control program.

Bti is used to prevent mosquitoes from hatching in lakes, ponds and other bodies of water. It acts on the larval or immature stage of the mosquito in water immediately before the flying mosquito emerges. **Bti** is part of a mosquito management approach using habitat management and other measures to control immature mosquitoes in order to lessen the need to spray for adult mosquitoes.

How can I avoid exposure to Bti?

Risk to the general public from the use of **Bti** is minimal. Avoiding exposure is always the safest course of action, particularly for populations that may be at higher risk such as pregnant women, children, the elderly and those with chronic illnesses. Any possible exposure risk can be reduced by following some common sense actions:

- Plan your activities to limit time spent outside during times of possible pesticide treatments.
- Avoid direct contact with water bodies that have been treated.
- Move children’s toys out of application areas.
- Move animals and their food and water dishes out of application areas.
- Stay away from application equipment, whether in use or not.

