

Japanese Beetle: Frequently Asked Questions



Oregon
Department
of Agriculture

Q: What are Japanese beetles? Why are they a problem?

A: Japanese beetles are a non-native insect pest that feeds on plants. This invasive pest can be destructive in multiple life stages. As an immature “grub” it feeds on the roots of grasses, limiting the plant’s ability to acquire water, creating dead areas of grass or turf. As an adult, it feeds on leaves creating a pattern known as “skeletonizing.” The feeding results in the defoliation, or stripping of leaves from the plant. Defoliated plants are more susceptible to disease, stress, and have higher death rates. Roses, berry bushes, grapes, and fruit trees are highly susceptible to this type of damage. Along with being a residential and agricultural pest, Japanese beetles can degrade wildlife habitats and biodiversity may be affected.

Q: Where is the treatment area?

A: View a map of the treatment area online: bit.do/jbmap

Q: When will the treatment start?

A: April 17th, 2017. It will take approximately six weeks to treat all the properties in the treatment zone.

Q: How will the insecticide be applied?

A: The insecticide will be applied to lawns and irrigated ornamental landscapes using hand held seed/fertilizer spreaders (such as push carts, belly grinders) by licensed pesticide applicators. The application should take, on average, 15 minutes per property.

Q: Where will the insecticide be applied?

A: The placement of Acelepryn G[®] will occur only in areas where turf grass is grown.

Q: How much does the treatment cost?

A: Treatment is free to all residents in the treatment area.

Q: If I live outside the treatment area, should I treat my property?

A: No. The Oregon Department of Agriculture is not recommending additional treatments at this time.

Q: How will I know when you will treat my property?

A: Residents within the treatment area will receive a notification on their front door at least 72 hours prior to treatment notifying them when their property will be treated.

Q: How will I know if you have treated my property?

A: ODA will leave a door hanger on your front door notifying you of the date and time we treated your property. ODA may need to reschedule treatment on your property if the gate to your yard was locked, a pet was in the yard, or your yard was too wet due to recent rains.

Q: Do I need to be home for the treatment?

A: No, as long as any gate to your yard is unlocked and your pets are inside.

Q: Who will be doing the treatment?

A: ODA has contracted with General Tree Service to conduct the treatment. General Tree is a professionally licensed pesticide applicator and every team will be supervised by an ODA employee. ODA has worked with General Tree Service on other successful eradication projects.

Q: Is the insecticide being used, Acelepryn G, safe?

A: The Oregon Health Authority has developed a series of Frequently Asked Questions regarding Acelepryn G. A quote from their FAQ document states: “Chlorantraniliprole [the active ingredient in Acelepryn G] is classified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as a “Reduced Risk” pesticide. This means that chlorantraniliprole poses a lower risk to human health and the environment than other pesticides allowed for the same uses.”

Q: Are there precautionary measures a homeowner should take?

A: Watch for the Japanese beetle. Homeowners should be aware of the pest and report any new finds so that the insects can be eradicated quickly without further spread. It is also important not to share plants from homes in the infested areas nor states with established populations.

Q: What if I have a question, concern, or complaint?

A: If you have been exposed to Acelepryn G® and you have concerns about possible health effects, wash the affected area with soap and water and contact the Oregon Poison Center at 1-800-222-1222.

For non-urgent questions on Acelepryn G® or chlorantraniliprole, contact the EPA-funded National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC), based at Oregon State University, by phone 1-800-858-7378 (M-F, 8AM-12PM) or email: npic@ace.orst.edu You can learn more about pesticides on NPIC’s website: npic.orst.edu

For general information about applications of Acelepryn G®, planned for mid-April to May 2017, please contact Oregon Department of Agriculture’s (ODA) Plant Protection and Conservation Programs staff at 1-800-525-0137 (Mon. – Fri., 8AM – 5PM) or by email: japanesebeetle@oda.state.or.us

For more information on JB, visit: www.japanesebeetlepx.info

