

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
CHEMISTRY, FOOD AND DRUGS DIVISION PESTICIDES AND
TOXIC CHEMICALS CONTROL BOARD

PRECAUTIONS FOR THE USE OF HOUSEHOLD
INSECTICIDAL PRODUCTS

WHEN USING AEROSOLS:

- do not store with food and beverages
- do not spray on or over, food and beverages
- do not spray on humans, pets, aquaria, bird-cages and honey bees
- do not spray on surfaces where food is prepared
- keep out of the reach of children
- avoid inhalation of spray mist or direct contact with skin or eyes
- if contact occurs, wash the area with plenty soap and water
- in case of accidental intoxication, patient should contact a physician, hospital or poison information centre for treatment and advice, always have the product label available when seeking treatment or advice
- the aerosol can must be protected from direct sunlight and temperatures exceeding 50 °C
- do not spray into open fires or onto hot surfaces
- do not open can forcibly
- do not smoke while spraying
- to avoid accumulation of explosive propellant gas, do not spray uninterruptedly into confined small spaces or poorly ventilated rooms
- make sure the can is completely empty before disposal

WHEN USING MOSQUITO COILS:

- do not use coils in the presence of a person with allergies
- place coils on stand provided by manufacturer
- take care when lighting coils
- do not place the coils close to combustible and/or inflammable materials
- do not store the coils together with food and beverages
- keep out of the reach of children
- if a coils breaks, only burn broken segments on an appropriate stand and on a heat resistant surface

WHEN USING INSECT REPELLENT

- apply repellents only to exposed skin and/or clothing (as directed on the product label)
- never use repellent over cuts, wounds, or irritated skin
- do not apply to eyes and mouth, and apply sparingly around ears, when using sprays do not spray directly onto face; spray on hands first and then apply to face
- do not allow children to handle the products, and do not apply to children's hands, when using on children, apply to your own hands and then put in on the child
- do not spray in enclosed area, avoid breathing a repellent spray, and do not use it near food
- use just enough repellent to cover exposed skin and/or clothing, heavy application and saturation is generally unnecessary for effectiveness; if biting insects do not respond to a thin film of repellent, then apply a bit more
- after returning indoors, wash treated skin with soap and water or bathe, this is particularly important when repellents are used repeatedly in a day or on consecutive days, also, wash treated clothing before wearing it again; if you suspect that your child are reacting to an insect repellent, discontinue use, wash treated skin and then call your local poison control centre, if/when you go to a doctor, take the repellent with you

WHEN USING MATS/LIQUID VAPOURISERS:

- keep out of reach of children and pets
- do not use in the presence of a person with allergies
- do not store mats together with food and beverages
- wash hands after touching the mats
- do not cover heating device
- avoid accumulation of dust and dirt on the heater
- do not wash or clean heater with water
- wash hands after refilling liquid vapourisers
- do not open empty or full bottle forcibly
- after contact with wick or liquid, wash hands
- use only original refill bottle

WHEN USING BAIT:

- do not store bait with food, feed-stuffs or beverages
- the product should not be placed directly onto the ground or in open water
- the bait should never be taken out of the plastic box of the bait station
- the bait should be kept away from children and pets
- do not ingest the bait material
- if accidental ingestion of the product occurs, patient should contact a physician for treatment. Always have the product name and label available when consulting a physician.

WHEN USING FLEA AND TICK SHAMPOOS:

- Follow label instructions
- Each time you handle your pet for the first couple of days following the treatment, wash your hands before eating, smoking, or going to the toilet. To keep exposure to an absolute minimum, you may try avoiding contact with your pet for the first few days following treatment.

PHYSICAL CONTROL MEASURES TO COMPLEMENT HOUSEHOLD INSECTICIDES

Physical methods aiming at the elimination and reduction of disease-carrying insects and nuisance pests' breeding sites and around human habitations, or keeping them away from human dwellings, are important control measures and should be promoted. However, household insecticide products can complement the use of such measures in providing more effective personal protection.

The following are examples of physical control measures, which may be used alone or in combination for the required purpose:

- use of bed nets
- use of wire gauze screening in windows and doors to avoid invasion of flying insects
- avoid accumulation of open water around the house (puddles, open water tanks, damaged water pipes, tires, coconut shells and other natural containers, etc.) in order to avoid breeding areas for mosquitoes
- fill tree holes with concrete
- keep roof gutters clean
- clean and brush water tanks regularly and thoroughly with a wire brush in order to remove eggs and to avoid breeding of mosquito larvae
- avoid the accumulation of organic and decaying materials and garbage in and around the house in order to avoid breeding of flies and other pests
- discard garbage properly
- cover food, feed-stuffs and water tanks
- keep cooking areas clean and organised
- seal cracks and crevices where cockroaches and bugs may breed and rest
- wear long pants and long sleeve shirts to prevent insect bites
- support natural enemies of insect like birds, frogs, lizards and fish.