

The Latest Broadcast on Fire Ant Control Products

Dr. Paul R Nester, Program Specialist – IPM – Houston Metro Area

For more information see our web site, <http://fireant.tamu.edu> - Updated 9/5/2007

Broadcast Baits

(Apply at 1.5 lbs/acre unless noted on label)

Agricultural Lands (*grazed, hayed, cropped, orchards, gardens, etc.*). *Refer to label for specific uses.*

Extinguish (0.5% methoprene) - labeled for use almost anywhere. Very slow to work, 2-3 months applied in spring, 4- 8 months applied in fall. Varies with reinvasion pressure; one application per year is usually sufficient.

Amdro Pro (0.73% hydramethylnon) - May be applied to grass forage (pasture and rangeland) for the control of fire ants in some southern states. Do not cut and bale hay from pastures and rangeland until 7 days after the bait application is made. Takes about 2-4 weeks.

Extinguish + Amdro Pro Hopper Blend - mix 0.75 lb of each (50:50 hopper blend) applied at 1.5 lbs/acre total. Gives speed of Amdro Pro and the duration of control of Extinguish at no extra cost. Similar restrictions for grass forage as Amdro Pro.

Extinguish Plus (0.25% s-methoprene + 0.36% hydramethylnon) - the same ingredients as the hopper blend of Amdro Pro + Extinguish but in a single package. This product Extinguish Plus may be applied to grass forage (pastures and rangeland) for the control of fire ants in some southern states. Do not cut and bale hay from pastures and rangeland until 7 days after the bait application is made.

Esteem (0.5% pyriproxyfen) - Recent label for Esteem for use in hay pastures or with livestock used for food or feed production. May also be used in select vegetables and tree fruits. Refer to label for specifics. Relatively slow, 1-3 months applied in spring, 3-6 months in fall.

Non-Food Producing Lands. *This can include horse pastures and other non-crop areas as noted. Rates vary.*

Amdro (0.73% hydramethylnon) - labeled for use in urban as well as non-crop areas. Not to be confused with Amdro Pro above. NOT for use in hay pastures or where livestock used for food or feed production is grazed. *May be used in horse pastures.* Works in about 4 weeks.

Amdro Yard Treatment (0.036% hydramethylnon) - version of Amdro that can be applied through a regular fertilizer spreader at 21 lbs/acre. Low concentrated high volume bait. NOT for use in hay pastures or where livestock used for food or feed production is grazed. *May be used in horse pastures.* Works in about 4 weeks. Not for single mound treatments.

Amdro Fire Strike (0.036% hydramethylnon + 0.0172% s-methoprene) - the same ingredients as Extinguish Plus, but lower concentration, in a single package formulated for homeowner that can be applied through a regular fertilizer spreader at 5 lb per 5,000 – 10,000 sq ft. NOT for use in hay pastures or where livestock used for food or feed production is grazed. *May be used in horse pastures.*

Award (1% fenoxycarb) – Originally called “Logic” which is no longer being made, but all uses are on Award label. A good IGR, but very slow. NOT for use in hay pastures or where livestock used for food or feed production is grazed. *May be used in horse pastures.*

Spinosad products (also called Conserve, 0.015% spinosad) - considered all natural or “organic”, fast, but inconsistent when broadcast. Available under Green Light, FertiLome, Safer, Ortho, or Southern Ag product line. Green Light product is certified organic by OMRI meaning it is approved for use in organic gardens, less than one acre. May require multiple applications.

Ascend/Varsity/Clinch (0.011% abamectin) - Not an IGR, but performs like an IGR when broadcast applied, hard to find, limited to professional market.

MaxForce (1.0% Hydramethylnon) – Labeled for use in most urban areas. Similar active as Amdro, but label is more restrictive than Amdro. Mostly used in professional market.

MaxForce FC (0.00015% fipronil) – Originally called Ceasefire. Bayer is changing the bait granule for better performance, so not available now. Past tests indicate speed of control similar to Amdro.

Probait (0.73% hydramethylnon) - labeled for use in urban as well as non-crop areas. NOT for use in hay pastures or where livestock used for food or feed production is grazed. *May be used in horse pastures.* Works in 2-4 weeks. Mostly used in professional market.

Advion (0.045% indoxacarb) - Professional version. 90% or better control in THREE DAYS, foraging suppression in 12 – 48 hours.

Spectracide “Once & Done” (0.016% indoxacarb), – Retail version of indoxacarb. High volume application low concentrated product. Same active as Advion. Two to three applications per year usually needed with Spectracide product.

Garden Tech “Over ‘N Out” Single Mound Treatment (0.008% indoxacarb) - Retail version of indoxacarb but only to be used as a single mound treatment.

Contact Insecticides – short list *

Over 'N Out or TopChoice (0.0103% or 0.0143% fipronil) – This is not a bait but acts about as fast as Amdro fire ant bait, but VERY long true residual activity. May see good control for over a year, particularly on clay soils. Expensive (~\$20/5,000 square feet vs \$10-12 per acre for baits) so use in high traffic areas or where long term control is needed. No agricultural uses.

Sevin XLR Plus (47% carbaryl) - labeled for pasture mound drench, 1.5 quarts/100 gal.

Pyrethroids (Ortho Max, Bayer Lawn and Garden, DeltaGard, Talstar, etc.) and other broadcast treatments – Use as directed to suppress foragers, but may not kill colony. Multiple applications may be necessary. Uses a lot of insecticide, populations of other beneficial insects may be affected.

Spinosad (0.5% liquid) – considered all natural or “organic.” Has a fire ant mound drench statement on label. Available from Green Light or FertiLome. Green Light product is certified organic by OMRI meaning it is approved for use in organic gardens.

* a good reference is the eXtension information on fire ant control products. Please see:
http://www.extension.org/pages/Fire_Ant_Insecticides_for_use_in_Urban_Areas