Control the Meadow Spittlebug

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Good alfalfa or red clover hay is valuable. The meadow spittlebug sometimes is an important pest of these hay crops in Virginia. In some areas of the State, and in some years, a great percentage of alfalfa and red clover stems may be infested with spittlebug nymphs. They cause a dwarfing of the plant and reduce yield.

Equipment

Low-pressure, low-rate (weed-type) sprayers are ideal for forage insect control. They are inexpensive, and have many other farm uses. On each acre, use 10 to 20 gals. of spray containing the necessary amount of insecticide. Twenty gallons per acre at a pressure of 40 lbs. will give better results than lower rates. Higher rates are not essential. Boom sprayers are a better

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<th>Material With Low Volu</th>
<th>Amt. Commercial Formulations</th>
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<tr>
<td>Insecticide</td>
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<tr>
<td>Methoxychlor emulsifiable concentrate (1 gal. contains 2 lbs. of methoxychlor)</td>
<td>2 qts.</td>
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investment than the broad jet (boomless) type. Boom sprayers give more uniform spray coverage under most conditions. Dusters may be used; however, dust is not as effective as spray.

How To Mix the Spray

Fill the spray tank to the desired level. Add 2 qts. of methoxychlor emulsifiable (1 gal. of emulsifiable concentrate contains 2 lbs. of methoxychlor) for each 20 gals. of water. Then start the agitator. In low-pressure, low-rate power sprayers, agitation is produced usually by the by-pass or flow-back of the spray in the tank when the nozzles are closed. The spray will mix readily when the agitator runs for 2 to 3 minutes.

Eggs on straw

Time To Apply

Spray when the first tiny spittle masses are seen in the field. This is usually during

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<th>To Use me Equipment</th>
<th>Minimum No. Days Application to Harvest</th>
<th>Residue Tolerance in Parts Per Million</th>
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<td>sprayers)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>100</td>
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the first 2 weeks in April, but will vary considerably at some points in the State because of elevation and seasonal differences.

KEYS TO PROPER USE OF PESTICIDES

1. Read the label on each pesticide container before each use. Follow instructions to the letter; heed all cautions and warnings, and note precautions about residues.

2. Keep pesticides in the containers in which you bought them. Put them where children or animals cannot get to them, preferably under lock and away from food, feed, seed, or other material that may become harmful if contaminated.

3. Dispose of empty containers in the manner specified on the label. If disposal instructions are not printed on the label, burn the containers where smoke will not be a hazard, or bury them at least 18" deep in a place where water supplies will not be contaminated.

SEE YOUR DOCTOR IF SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS OCCUR DURING OR AFTER USE OF PESTICIDES.