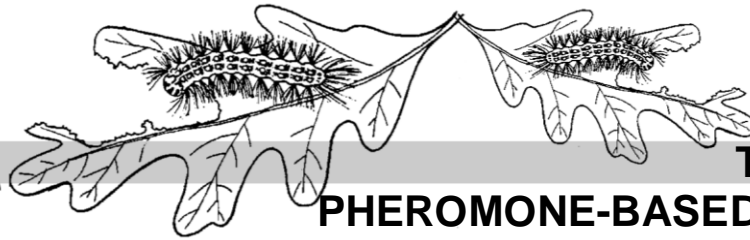




fast facts



TREATMENT: PHEROMONE-BASED PRODUCTS

Type of product

The most common pheromone-based mating disruptor that is used in Wisconsin is SPLAT, this is small waxy droplets infused with female gypsy moth pheromone. Both synthetic and organic formulations of SPLAT are used.

How pheromone products work

When an area is treated with SPLAT, the scent of the female moth floods the area and confuses male gypsy moths so they cannot find females. This is effective because the gypsy moths are at the end of their life cycle, they die without reproducing. SPLAT does not actually kills moths; they just carry the scent and prevent reproduction.

What SPLAT looks like

SPLAT is a relatively new product that serves as an alternative delivery system for female gypsy moth pheromone. SPLAT is made out of the pheromone mixed with a waxy matrix to help it stick to the leaves. After applied this will look like small white droplets that can be washed off skin or surfaces with soap and water.

Application timing

One application between late June and late July, just before moths emerge from cocoons. Applications start in southern Wisconsin

Application method

- SPLAT is applied aerially by low flying applicator planes
- Seven ounces of the product are used per acre.
- This is only about six grams of pheromone per acre

Why we use pheromone products

- The pheromone is detectable only to gypsy moths; no other species are impacted.
- Used where endangered or threatened species of butterflies and moths are feeding during spray season.
- Dead and dying caterpillars become soft and limp, which is why the viral disease is known as "wilt"
- Only effective in areas with low gypsy moth populations.

Spraying program information

Spray program information, including maps of the proposed spray sites, will be available online at the website below. Information is also available by the phone or by emailing DATCPGypsymoth@wisconsin.gov

**For more information, call 1-800-642-MOTH
or visit Wisconsin Gypsy Moth on the web at
<http://gypsymoth.wi.gov>**