

spongy moth

WISCONSIN COOPERATIVE SPONGY MOTH PROGRAM

SPLAT
treatment

type of product

The most common pheromone-based mating disruptor applied in Wisconsin is SPLAT SM-O. It consists of small, waxy droplets infused with female spongy moth (*Lymantria dispar*) pheromone. All ingredients (active and inert) and uses of this product meet the criteria defined in the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Organic Program (NOP) Rule.

how it works

SPLAT SM-O droplets release female spongy moth pheromones over a large area. This prevents male spongy moths from finding the location of female spongy moths. Unmated female moths do not lay eggs, resulting in fewer or no spongy moth caterpillars the following year.

what it looks like

SPLAT SM-O is made of female spongy moth pheromone mixed with a waxy matrix to help it stick to tree leaves. After application, small white droplets are visible that can be washed off skin or surfaces with soap and water.

application method and timing

SPLAT SM-O is applied aerially by low-flying applicator planes. Seven ounces of the product are used per acre, which amounts to about six grams of pheromone per acre. Single applications start in southern Wisconsin in late June just before moths emerge from cocoons and end by late July.

why use SPLAT

- The pheromone is detectable only to spongy moths; no other species are impacted
- Can be used where endangered or threatened species of butterflies and moths are feeding during spray season
- Effective in areas with low spongy moth populations

for more information

The current year's spray program information, including maps of proposed spray sites, will be available online starting in early spring at the website listed below or by emailing spongymoth@wisconsin.gov.

1-800-642-MOTH (6684) | spongymoth.wi.gov

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION