MEMO

20 May 2005

To: Florida County Extension Service

From: Roxanne Rutledge, Extension Specialist

RE: New information on mosquito repellents

-Two new active ingredients
-Revision of recommendations for use of mosquito repellents on children

Fact sheet ENY-671, “Mosquito Repellents” has been updated to include new information. Please replace older versions of the fact sheet with the attached revised edition. The following is a summary of the new additions:

1. Two active ingredients were added to the CDC guidelines:
   - picaridin (KBR 3023)
   - Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus [p-menthane 3,8-diol (PMD)].

2. Research conducted by the University of Florida, and summarized in fact sheet ENY-671, includes results from products containing both of the two active ingredients listed above.

   Picaridin = Skin-so-soft Bug Guard Plus in Table 1 of the fact sheet. The formulation tested by the University of Florida was 7.5% IR3535 and provided 23 minutes average complete protection time.

   Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus = The formulation tested by the University of Florida provided 120 minutes average complete protection time. Note that one of the subjects developed a skin reaction after the 1st test and did not complete the experiment

3. Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus has not been tested against mosquitoes that spread malaria and some other diseases which occur internationally.
4. The Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus label states that it should not be used on children under the age of three years.

5. The American Academy of Pediatrics revised their recommendation for use of DEET-containing products on children. The new guideline states that products with concentrations of 10% to 30% DEET are safe when used according to the directions on the label. They suggest that it is acceptable to apply repellents with low concentrations of DEET to infants over 2 months old.

6. Repellent products that do not contain DEET are not likely to offer the same amount of protection against mosquito bites as those that contain DEET. Non-DEET repellents have not been as thoroughly studied as DEET and may not be safe to use on children.

For more information, contact me, or visit these websites:

Centers for Disease Control
http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/qa/insect_repellent.htm

Environmental Protection Agency
http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/factsheets/insectrp.htm

UF/IFAS EDIS Website for Fact Sheet on Mosquito Repellents
http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/IN419