



Jackson County Health Department

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September 15, 2020

To: Interested Agricultural Producers and Pollinators and others

The Jackson County MSU-Extension office is assisting the Jackson County Health Department in making information available concerning aerial spraying for mosquito control of EEE.

Due to the ongoing mosquito-borne Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) disease outbreak across 10 counties in Michigan, the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development has declared an Emergency Rule amending Rule 11, R 285.637.11. The state is going to conduct targeted aerial spraying to combat mosquito populations in areas across the state, including Jackson County. One area in Jackson County near Michigan Center has a confirmed horse case as of September 9th. The majority of 2020 horse EEE cases statewide have occurred in an area between Grand Rapids and Clare. The State is targeting the evening of September 16th as the beginning date of aerial spraying. At this point, we do not have a schedule for the Jackson County spraying.

Similar to last year's aerial campaign, MERUS 3.0 will be sprayed by the same company (Clarke from Illinois) beginning at dusk and finishing up by dawn. Spraying by aircraft is dependent upon weather conditions and may be delayed with little or no notice.

MERUS 3.0 is a botanical Pyrethrin insecticide that is utilized for the control of adult mosquitoes in outdoor residential, recreational, urban, industrial and agricultural areas. It is approved for use over agricultural crops, including those intended for human consumption, pasture and rangeland. It will be an Ultra-Low Volume application equivalent to approximately one tablespoon of product per acre of land. It is also approved for use around organic farming.

The OMRI certificate for MERUS 3.0 is available at:
<https://www.omri.org/mfg/cmc/certificate/10513>

Due to the Emergency Rule issuance, there is **no "Opt Out" option** for the spraying this year. The full details of the order are at:
https://www.michigan.gov//documents/lara/2020-209_Pesticides_Eastern_Equine_Encephalitis_702050_7.pdf

Spraying may begin as soon as Wednesday night September 16th.

Additional information, including press releases and a FAQ are attached to this notification. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services website dedicated to this event is:
www.Michigan.gov/EEE

It will be updated on a regular basis by the State and is the best place to find information concerning spray locations and other updates over the next several weeks.

Working together to create and promote a healthy community through disease prevention and control, health education, environmental protection and emergency preparedness.