

Insect-A-Shield FAQ

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1. *What is Diatomaceous Earth?*

‘Single-Celled’ plants called Diatoms are the basic food for aquatic life. They take the minerals from the water to build a protective shell. As the diatoms die, the shells sift to the bottom of either salt or fresh water. These fossilized deposits of microscopic shells of the diatoms make up ‘Diatomaceous Earth’.

2. *Is Diatomaceous Earth hazardous?*

The Diatomaceous Earth in Insect-A-Shield is processed mechanically and naturally using NO chemicals or chemical processes. It has a “non-hazardous” rating.

3. *How does the Diatomaceous Earth in Insect-A-Shield act as an insecticide?*

The diatoms, although microscopic in size, are extremely hard (# 7 on the hardness scale) and abrasive. As the insects come in contact with the Insect-A-Shield, the diatoms lacerate the exoskeleton of their bodies. Once their exoskeleton is punctured, the body fluids escape; they become dehydrated, dry up and die. Because this is a physical action rather than a chemical one, there is NO SURVIVAL and the insects CANNOT build up a resistance to Insect-A-Shield.

4. *What are the differences in the Insect-A-Shield products?*

Diatomaceous Earth is the primary ingredient in all of the Insect-A-Shield products.

Diatomaceous Earth is the only ingredient in the Fossil Shell Flour which is ground to the same consistency as flour. It was developed as an ‘anti-caking’ product. It is labeled as ‘Food Grade’ (CODEX) and can safely be added to animal feed. An added benefit is that it has proven to safely worm the animals in the process.

All of the other Insect-A-Shield Products contain varying amounts of Pyrethrum and Piperonyl butoxide. These additions are vegetable extracts from natural sources. The pyrethrum is highly lethal to insects, and is a digestible extract of the chrysanthemum flower. These additives agitate and irritate the insect which allows the diatomaceous earth to work more quickly.

5. *How long is Insect-A-Shield viable?*

As long as the Insect-A-Shield is present, the insects tend to stay away. The more it is used, the more it is a repellent to unwanted insects.

6. *Can Insect-A-Shield be effective in serious infestations?*

There are testimonials of severe infestations being treated effectively by treating the entire house with power blowers, making certain all surfaces, cracks and holes were filled. In some cases the inside walls, attics and under the house were also treated.

The Southern part of this country is severely affected by Fire Ants. Insect-A-Shield Fire Ant formula has proven to be a safe, effective treatment for this problem. Ants on top of the ground will die within 10-15 minutes after coming in contact with the Insect-A-Shield. At this point the Queen is still alive and well, so now you must pour a solution of the Insect-A-Shield and water down the hole where the Queen(s) resides. At this point, the nest should be exterminated.

7. *How can I treat my yard?*

Mix equal parts of Insect-A-Shield with dry sand and use a lawn fertilizer spreader. This will give an even flow. Dust thoroughly the 1st time and re-apply as needed. Smaller areas may be applied with a hand applicator.

8. *Will Insect-A-Shield kill rodents?*

No, Insect-A-Shield is non-hazardous to warm blooded animals.

9. *Can Insect-A-Shield reduce or eliminate fly problems?*

External dusting of the animals prevents the animals from being affected by flies and other insects. Insect-A-Shield kills flies the same way a fly swatter does. It kills by the physical action of lacerating the exoskeleton and dehydration, not by poisoning.

When flies get the Insect-A-Shield on their feet, they rub their 2 front feet together then lift their feet behind their head. This is the most sensitive area of their bodies, and they will die in about 12 minutes.

10. *How long does it take to kill insects?*

When insects are in contact with Insect-A-Shield they will die. Because of the differences in their body structures and size, some insects will take longer to die than others. A large well-protected insect may take up to an hour to lose enough of its body fluids to die while others die in only a few minutes. Remember, the insects are dying from dehydration, NOT from poison.

11. *Can Insect-A-Shield reduce or eliminate manure odors?*

Clients have reported that odors are reduced and are no longer a problem when the fossil shell flour is mixed with their feed. This may be due to better digestion, absorption, and the reduction and/or elimination of internal parasites. They have also reported that flies would not hatch out of the manure of animals consuming feed with the fossil shell flour additive.