Re-Treatment of Uniforms With Permethrin – New Guidance

The United States Army registered a 40% permethrin product (EPA Registration #63120-1; NSN 6840-01-334-2666) for uniform treatment using a 2-gallon hand-pressurized sprayer to provide protection against arthropod vectors. This product affords protection through 50 launderings and may not be used on uniforms that have been factory treated with permethrin or any other repellent product.

The original product label prohibited retreatment, even though a uniform may still be serviceable. In response to a request from the registrant, the EPA approved a label amendment allowing for uniforms initially treated with the 2-gallon permethrin be retreated one (1) time with this same product after 50 launderings.

Frequently asked questions:

1. Which uniforms can be treated with this product?
   a. Only uniforms that were not factory treated with permethrin.

2. How do I know if my uniform has been treated with permethrin?
   a. If your uniform was factory treated it will have an EPA label indicating the treatment. If your uniform was previously treated via the 2-gallon method, your uniform should be marked on the label with the date of the treatment.

3. I have a bottle of permethrin with the old label. Can I still use this to retreat my uniform?
   a. Yes, if the uniform meets the retreatment criteria. It may take several months for the manufacturer to produce permethrin bottles with the new label.

4. Who can I talk to if I have questions about uniform treatments?
   a. The Contingency Liaison Officer at the Armed Forces Pest Management Board (email: osd.pentagon.ousd-atl.mbx.afpmb-clo@mail.mil) can assist with uniform treatment questions.

5. My uniform was factory treated. Can I retreat it with the 2-gallon method?
   a. No. Factory treated uniforms may not be retreated.

6. My uniform was treated with the IDA kit. Can I retreat it with the 2-gallon method?
   a. No. Only uniforms initially treated with the 2-gallon method may be retreated with the 2-gallon method.

7. How do I know how many times my uniform has been washed?
   a. Most people wash their uniforms once per week. Additionally, your uniform will have the date of initial treatment written on the label.