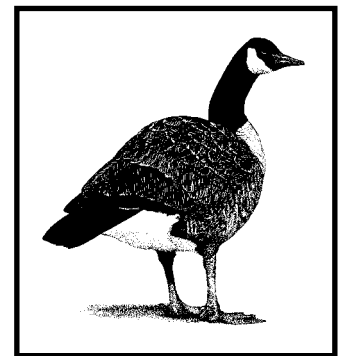


Division of Wildlife

CHEMICAL REPELLENTS



TYPES OF REPELLENTS

Two types of chemicals are currently registered with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as goose repellents: methyl anthranilate (MA) and anthraquinone (AQ). Both chemicals were originally designed to be sprayed on grass, thus making the grass unpalatable to geese. In recent years, however, MA has also been used as an aerosol to chase geese away.

MA is a naturally occurring nontoxic, biodegradable food ingredient found in concord grapes and orange blossoms. It has been used as a fragrance and flavoring in many consumer products, such as grape bubble gum and is less toxic than table salt. Two MA-based repellents found in the marketplace are ReJeXiT and Repel.

AQ is a naturally occurring compound found in a wide variety of plants and is virtually odorless. The compound is harmless to wildlife and humans, and it persists in all weather conditions (rain, snow, ice). Flight Control is the only AQ-based repellent currently on the market.

FOR BEST RESULTS, FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS

All chemical repellents have specific instructions on the label which explain the proper application techniques and directions. It is extremely important to follow the label directions so that the repellents will work properly. In general terms, for turf application MA or AQ is mixed with water at the specified dilution rate and applied to grass areas where the birds are feeding. When geese feed on the treated grass, the repellent causes a strong reaction in the geese, thus causing them to avoid the treated grass. When used as an aerosol, MA is poured into a thermal fogger which is taken upwind of the geese and started. The fog will drift onto the geese, and the vaporized MA irritates the birds' mucous linings causing them to leave the area.



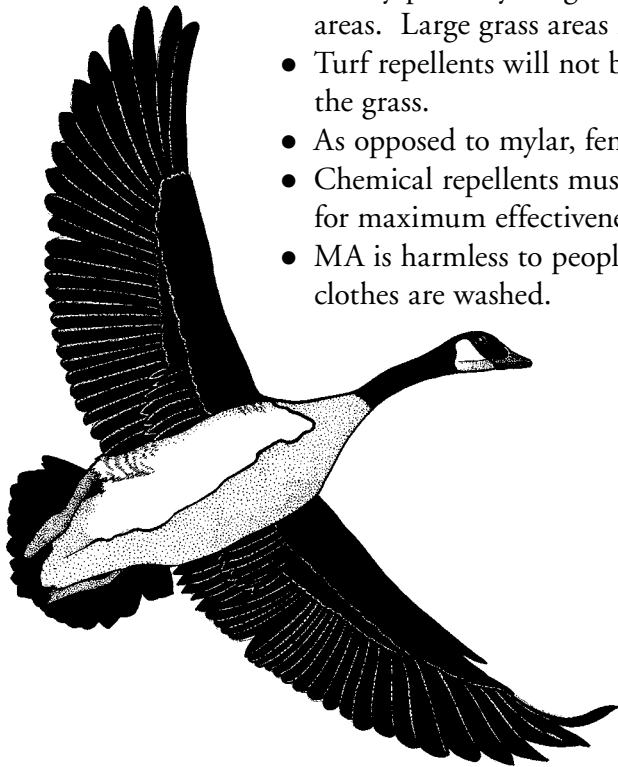
Chemical Repellents

Timing the application of chemical repellents is critical for maximum effectiveness. Turf repellents will not be effective against geese that are actively nesting (i.e., sitting on eggs). In addition, turf repellents will be more effective if used before geese have developed a strong habit of feeding on the grass in an area.

POINTS TO CONSIDER

Effectiveness of the turf repellents varies for each conflict situation. The type of repellent, timing of application, frequency of application, size of the area, number of geese present, and use or non-use of other harassment techniques all contribute to success or failure.

- Turf repellents tend to be expensive, and they must be applied more than once.
- You will need to reapply sprays after each mowing or rainfall, depending on the product.
- Fogging may have to be used repeatedly during the first couple of days until the birds clear the area.
- If only part of your grass area is treated, geese will continue to feed in untreated areas. Large grass areas may not be practical for application.
- Turf repellents will not be effective on areas where geese are present, but not eating, the grass.
- As opposed to mylar, fences, grids, etc., chemical repellents are nearly invisible.
- Chemical repellents must be used in conjunction with other harassment techniques for maximum effectiveness, not as a stand-alone measure.
- MA is harmless to people, but it will give your clothing a grape smell until the clothes are washed.



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