THURICIDE® BT CATERPILLER CONTROL

- Low toxicity to humans and animals
- Used by Organic growers
- Made from a bacteria that is toxic to certain pests
- Same active ingredient as Dipel®

CONTAINS: Bacillus Thuringiensis in liquid form

USE ON: Vegetables, citrus, nuts, shrubs, trees, tobacco, and flowering plants.

CONTROLS: Controls lepidoptera larve: caterpillars and worms. i.e. cabbage looper, orange dog, tobacco hornworm, imported cabbageworm and rindworm.

RATE: 2 - 4 tsp. per gallon.

APPLICATION: Mix with water, add spreader-sticker, use as a thorough cover spray.

Over 90 species of naturally occurring, insect-specific bacteria have been isolated from insects, plants, and the soil, but only a few have been studied intensively. Much attention has been given to Bacillus thuringiensis, a species that has been developed as a microbial insecticide.

Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt) occurs naturally in the soil and on plants. Different varieties of this bacterium produce a crystal protein that is toxic to specific groups of insects. These products have an excellent safety record and can be used on crops until close to the day of harvest. Bt can be applied using conventional spray equipment but, because the bacteria must be eaten to be effective, good spray coverage is essential.

The control of many caterpillar pests including imported cabbageworm and cabbage looper and caterpillars. When ingested by a susceptible insect, the protein toxin damages the gut lining, leading to gut paralysis. Affected insects stop feeding and die from the combined effects of starvation and tissue damage. Bt spores do not usually spread to other insects or cause disease outbreaks on their own as occurs with many pathogens. Successful use of these Bt formulations requires application to the correct target species at a susceptible stage of development, in the right concentration, at the correct temperature (warm enough for the insects to be actively feeding), and before the insect pests bore into the crop plant or fruit where they are protected. Young larvae are usually most susceptible. Caterpillar growth may be retarded even if less than a lethal dose is eaten. Determining when most of the pest population is at a susceptible stage is key to optimizing the use of this microbial insecticide.