

A SPECIAL SECTION TO

PMP

Pest Management
Professional

Arkion Life Sciences..... **M2**
Catchmaster Pro..... **M3**
Control Solutions Inc..... **M4**
Nisus..... **M5**
Zoëcon..... **M6**



2026 MOSQUITO BATTLES

GETTY IMAGES (ANALINE MOSQUITO), ANKOMANDO / ISTOCK / GETTY IMAGES PLUS (CROSSHAIR), ENJOYZ (CAMO) / DIGITALVISION VECTORS

SPECIAL ADVERTORIAL SECTION

‘We Would Not Be Here Without STB’

Mosquito management in Alaska is big business, and Peak Pest Control is winning its share with Arkion Life Sciences’ Stop the Bites! product

Mel Hickok has been in pest control since he was 15 years old, helping out in his cousin’s business.

As a fourth-generation Alaskan, he teases that the mosquito is “our state bird” because of its prevalence.

More than 35 mosquito species call the 49th state home, with most activity occurring from mid-June to late July. While Alaska summers are short, these pests are known for their density and aggression. According to the University of Alaska in Fairbanks, the most common species statewide is the snow mosquito (*Culiseta alaskaensis*), which is known to hibernate as adults under snow, emerging as early as April to feed. The good news is that, in general, Alaskan mosquitoes don’t transmit diseases.

Hickok owns Peak Pest Control in Wasilla, Alaska, with a focus on environmentally friendly mosquito control. He and his two technicians had been seeing some success with this service, but last year, they were able to take it to the next level once they started using Stop the Bites! (STB) from New Castle, Del.-based Arkion Life Sciences.

“I started reading about STB and decided to try it,” Hickok recalls. “After testing it and seeing

a massive decline in our re-service rate, I was all in.”

He was so impressed, in fact, that Peak Pest Control has since become an authorized distributor of the product.

“The mosquito control landscape in Alaska is starting to become more and more competitive, especially using all-natural options, so becoming a distributor for STB helps us to stay competitive,” Hickok explains. “Staying ahead of your competition is a must in a small market in order to stay alive, and we saw this as essential.”

Hickok adds that the Arkion team has “really made an effort to help us find tailored solutions for our needs. Shipping to Alaska will always be the toughest part, but their team has made it almost seamless and efficient.

They have helped us grow our small business and given us ways to help scale faster. We would not be here without STB.”

STB is an all-natural, essential oil-based spray that kills and repels mosquitoes and ticks on contact with respiratory action. It is exempt from U.S. Environmental

Protection Agency registration under section 25(b) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act.

STB acts as a barrier treatment, with studies showing 100 percent knockdown of mosquitoes within four hours and ticks within 24 hours, while remaining pet- and family-friendly. It is applied as a fog or spray in shady, moist areas where insects rest, such as in shrubbery, under leaves and on woodpiles.

After initial knockdown, STB offers residual protection against mosquitoes for up to 28 days.



Mel Hickok



Mosquito Battle

COMPANY: Peak Pest Control

BATTLEFIELD: 95 percent residential, 5 percent commercial

WAR STORY: Hickok recalls inspecting a residential account that had an absurd number of mosquitoes. “I had never seen so many, but the client said this had always been the case each summer,” he laments. “I applied STB, and within 24 hours, she called me back, overjoyed. Her family, especially her young grandson, was finally able to enjoy the yard because the mosquitoes were gone.”

WEAPON OF CHOICE

PROVEN SOLUTION: Stop the Bites! from Arkion Life Sciences

WEBSITE: StopTheBitesMC.com

Ovi-Catch Offers a Practical Solution for School Mosquito Control

With California's pest control industry among the most regulated in the country, it is crucial for pest management professionals (PMPs) to find solutions that provide both results and ensure environmental safety.

For Rich Kravetz, integrated pest management (IPM) technician at Anaheim Union High School District in Anaheim, Calif., pest management is not just about reducing the number of pesticides used around schools. It is about providing a safe environment for the children and adults who are on campus every day.

When deciding which product Kravetz would use in the schools, the Ovi-Catch was an obvious choice.

The Ovi-Catch is well suited for California's highly regulated environment, providing effective pest control without the use of harmful pesticides and reducing potential risks to people.

"With over 30 years of experience, it's important that you use every weapon in your arsenal," Kravetz says.

"I began using the Ovi-Catch in 2019 when we had an Asian tiger mosquito outbreak in Southern California. I wouldn't use anything in the schools that I wouldn't use around my own children, and with Ovi-Catch, I knew it was the safest option."

The Catchmaster Ovi-Catch mosquito trap is designed to help PMPs reduce mosquito populations by targeting female mosquitos during their breeding cycle.

The trap harnesses mosquitoes' natural egg-laying behavior by mimicking an attractive breeding site with standing water and dried leaves and grass. As females approach the water to lay eggs, they are intercepted by an internal glue board that captures them before they can reach the water, preventing reproduction and helping disrupt the local mosquito population.

One key feature that stands out to Kravetz is the accessibility of the Ovi-Catch.

"The Ovi-Catch bucket is great and only holds a certain amount of water, so you're never going to overflow the bucket," Kravetz says.

He also highlights the trap's low maintenance as a major benefit.

"I only have to clean out the glue trap every one to two months, which is nice since I'm using these across an entire school district," he says.

For technicians working solo, Catchmaster's Ovi-Catch can make managing mosquito control across a 20-school district far more feasible.

For PMPs facing their own mosquito troubles, Kravetz's advice is clear:

"If you're dealing with mosquitoes, this is a tool that can fit into almost any program, commercial, residential or agricultural. I don't see a downside to using it."



Rich Kravetz

Mosquito Battle

COMPANY: Anaheim Union High School District

BATTLEFIELD: 100% commercial

WAR STORY: Kravetz recalls one challenging situation during the early spread of the Asian tiger mosquito in Southern California.

"A few years ago, during the initial outbreak of the Asian tiger mosquito, one of the junior high schools in Anaheim had an influx of mosquitoes with what felt like no reasonable explanation since the school wasn't near a body of water," Kravetz says.

"I came in and explained to the school and the families that because the campus sits in a neighborhood, people could have tires, kiddie pools or buckets of water sitting in their yards where mosquitoes like to inhabit. The direction of the wind was likely blowing the mosquitoes onto the school campus and causing the infestation," he says.

"This is where the Ovi-Catch really came in handy. I started placing buckets in damp areas where I knew mosquitoes might nest, like near the air-conditioning vents and water drains in the classrooms," Kravetz says.

"Being able to leave the bucket in the classroom overnight drastically helped the situation and helped do the work that we couldn't complete on our own."

For Kravetz, the experience reinforced how important it is to think beyond obvious breeding sites when tracking down mosquito pressure.

WEAPON OF CHOICE

PROVEN SOLUTION: Ovi-Catch Mosquito Trap from Catchmaster Pro

WEBSITE: CatchmasterPro.com



Vector Kleer: A Green Solution to Pest Control

CSI meets the growing demand for sustainable pest control

Control Solutions Inc. (CSI) has long been a trusted name in the pest management industry, and its new product, Vector Kleer, further reinforces that reputation.

Now in just its second year on the market, Vector Kleer has already become a favorite among pest management professionals (PMPs). The insecticide is designed to kill, repel and control nuisance pests such as mosquitoes, fleas, flies and ticks.

The liquid concentrate is made primarily from essential oils rather than traditional synthetic pesticides, allowing it to be used in sensitive environments. Vector Kleer contains plant-derived actives like castor oil, cedarwood oil and lemongrass oil, making it well-suited for use in residential communities, schools and hospitals.

Patrick Carr, owner of the Mosquito Joe franchise in Pine



Patrick Carr

Bush, N.Y., first discovered Vector Kleer last year when CSI released it.

“We have been a green pest management company for six

years now and were using another product before Vector Kleer,” explains Carr. “But we were ready to try something new, and Vector Kleer has proven to be a big step up from what we were using before.”

Carr manages 17 technicians who feel reassured using Vector Kleer in these sensitive environments, knowing it gets the job done without causing unnecessary harm.

“Every morning I sit down with all of my techs to discuss the plans for the day and what they think about the products we’re using,” Carr says. “I recall asking what they thought about Vector Kleer, and one responded, ‘Sh*t kills everything, I love it.’ That’s how you know you’re using a good product.”

Carr says his favorite features of Vector Kleer are its strong customer satisfaction and its ability to reduce callbacks. “Our customers noticed a difference as soon as we started using Vector Kleer. There wasn’t an overwhelming smell when we applied it, and we rarely had to return to their homes.”

For PMPs seeking a botanical insecticide, Carr says Vector Kleer delivers strong results: “Our technicians love it, our customers notice the difference in effectiveness, and overall, it’s a reliable, green, botanical solution.”



Mosquito Battle

COMPANY: Mosquito Joe

BATTLEFIELD: 95 percent residential, 5 percent commercial

WAR STORY: For Carr, owning a pest management franchise in New York’s Hudson Valley means high volume and high expectations. More than 26,000 applications are made each season in a region known for heavy tick and mosquito pressure. After years of relying on another botanical product, switching solutions meant putting trust in a new option across thousands of residential properties.

“I was checking in with my technicians every morning,” Carr says. “We’d go over what they were seeing in the field, how the product was performing and what kind of feedback we were getting from customers.”

In the Hudson Valley, properties present a range of challenges, from dense wood lines and shaded foliage to open lawns and high-traffic outdoor spaces. Carr’s team treats perimeter areas, as well as decks, pools and mulch beds where pests harbor.

As the season progressed, customers began noticing a difference, and Carr’s team recorded its lowest respray rate to date, showing the product could meet the demands of both mosquito and tick control.

WEAPON OF CHOICE

PROVEN SOLUTION: Vector Kleer from Control Solutions Inc.

WEBSITE: CSI-pest.com

Eliminate Mosquitoes and Fleas from the Hot Zone

Zone Out by Nisus achieves 100 percent knockdown

Mosquitoes and fleas have always thrived in South Florida. They love the subtropical climate so much that they pester residents and visitors there year-round.

Dennis Kuchta is the founder and CEO of Wise House Pest



Dennis Kuchta

Control in Lantana and Port St. Lucie, Fla. He has lived in South Florida his entire life, so he knows the misery mosquitoes and fleas can cause.

As a result, he's always looking for new and better products to add to his mosquito and flea management arsenal.

So when Kuchta learned about Zone Out, an anti-mosquito, anti-flea liquid concentrate by Nisus, at PestWorld 2025 in Orlando, he was anxious to try it. Zone Out is made of eight essential oils and would fit perfectly with Wise House's approach to pest management. It's low in phytotoxicity, so it's unlikely to hurt plants.

Wise House tested Zone Out at an airpark community, a heavily wooded area with lakes, canals and plenty of

mosquitoes. Kuchta was pleasantly surprised with the test results, so Wise House kept using Zone Out on other jobs.

"We felt like we had a good knockdown with Zone Out," Kuchta says. "We've had no customer complaints so far."

Zone Out comes in a 1-gallon, easy-to-measure jug. Nisus says that, if used as directed, Zone Out knocks down 100 percent of mosquitoes in less than 10 seconds and kills up to 100 percent of mosquitoes within an hour.

Kuchta likes that Zone Out is also labeled for fleas because Wise House offers a bundle program that includes both mosquito and flea coverage. Nisus says that Zone Out achieves 100 percent knockdown of fleas in 20 minutes. Kuchta's team appreciates Zone Out's pleasant cinnamon mint fragrance, which makes it a win for customers, too. Their protocol

is to use it with an insect growth regulator (IGR) and a spreader sticker.

Since Wise House began applying Zone Out in October, its callback rate has been falling. Kuchta said the real test will come in the warmer summer months ahead.

Kuchta notes that Zone Out isn't the only Nisus product Wise House has in



Mosquito Battle

COMPANY: Wise House Pest Control

BATTLEFIELD: Mostly residential, some nonfood businesses

WAR STORY: Kuchta, founder and CEO of Wise House Pest Control, says expectations are the biggest challenge when it comes to mosquito control. Customers want 100 percent eradication, but that's impossible if the infestation is outdoors. Once technicians treat one area, mosquitoes move in from a surrounding area. Wise House prepares customers for that eventuality by telling them ahead of time that it can reduce the mosquito population by 80 percent to 90 percent. Even then, if customers see a couple of mosquitoes after treatment, they might believe Wise House has failed and cancel future service. To address this challenge, Wise House has created a three-tier program: The company can perform mosquito maintenance once a month, every three weeks or every two weeks. "We can bump customers up from a basic plan instead of losing them," Kuchta says. "We see fewer customers canceling now."

WEAPON OF CHOICE

PROVEN SOLUTION: Zone Out from Nisus

WEBSITE: WiseHouseBugs.com

its weapons stockpile: "We use a lot of Nisus products because they are eco-friendly and fall in line with our eco-friendly culture."

Fewer Callbacks, Better Control

Allstate Pest Control manages mosquitoes with Precor Outdoor F-T-M

For more than 50 years, Zoëcon Professional Products has helped pest management professionals (PMPs) tackle tough insect challenges while keeping environmental responsibility in mind. One of its newest solutions, Precor Outdoor F-T-M, continues to be a go-to for controlling insects in lawns, landscapes and other outdoor environments.

That’s certainly been the case for PMP Butch Skelton, owner of Allstate Pest Control. He began using the product last spring when his team needed a reliable way to manage an influx of mosquitoes in residential neighborhoods in Georgetown, Texas.



Butch Skelton

“We found it to be an exceptionally good product,” Skelton says. “It’s reasonably priced, and it’s very effective.”

Precor Outdoor F-T-M contains the insect growth regulator (IGR) (S)-methoprene, which disrupts insect development by preventing immature pests from reaching reproductive adulthood, helping break the infestation cycle before it can continue.

For Skelton, performance in the field is what matters most.

“Its effectiveness and how well it holds up outside really stands out,” he says. “It has a low odor, so there’s no issue with unpleasant

smells. It’s also a good option to use around children and animals.”

That combination is especially important in residential settings, where customer comfort and protection are top priorities.

Technicians at Allstate Pest Control say they feel confident using Precor Outdoor F-T-M because it delivers fast results while minimizing impact on people and the environment.

“Our customers are totally satisfied with it; it has reduced our callbacks to less than one percent,” Skelton says.

Skelton also relies on other Zoëcon products to round out his pest management program.

“We use Precor 2625 Premise Spray, which is an indoor aerosol spray for fleas, as well as Gentrol IGR Concentrate for cockroach control,” he says.

With fewer callbacks, proven performance and application-friendly features, Precor Outdoor F-T-M gives PMPs a dependable, environmentally responsible option for outdoor insect control.

Skelton advises PMPs to give Precor Outdoor F-T-M a try. “It’s well worth the money,” he adds. “It’s not expensive, and it cuts your callbacks down while keeping your budget in line.”



Mosquito Battle

COMPANY: Allstate Pest Control
BATTLEFIELD: 80 percent residential, 20 percent commercial
WAR STORY: Skelton recounts that some of the toughest jobs aren’t tied to a single outbreak, but rather ongoing residential challenges where multiple factors are at play.

“A lot of it just depends on the location,” Skelton says. “The vegetation in the area, if there are any water sources, we try to get the customer to cooperate with us as far as eliminating breeding areas.”

In neighborhoods with dense landscaping and hidden moisture sources, mosquitoes can become quickly persistent, requiring both strategic treatment and homeowner involvement.

To address these conditions, Skelton’s team applies Precor Outdoor F-T-M using backpack sprayers and misting equipment, allowing them to target problem areas effectively across properties.

The result: consistent control with minimal need for follow-up.

“We’ve found it to be an excellent product as far as cutting our retreats down,” Skelton says. “Very, very seldom do we have to go back.”

WEAPON OF CHOICE

PROVEN SOLUTION: Precor Outdoor F-T-M from Zoëcon

WEBSITE: Zoecon.com

Precor, Zoëcon, and Zoëcon with design are registered trademarks of Wellmark International.