

Need to Know

- Straight talk for professionals about pests and pest control products

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Maxforce[®] FC Magnum Roach Killer Bait Gel and Maxforce[®] FC Roach Bait Stations: *now registered for pantry pests!*

Recently, the labels of two well known and efficacious cockroach control products, Maxforce[®] FC Magnum Roach Killer Bait Gel and Maxforce[®] FC Roach Bait Stations were amended to include directions for use on controlling exposed, adult stages of many pantry pest beetles. These products are registered for use in commercial, industrial and residential areas including food/feed handling establishments.

This important new use for these products came about almost by accident when Wayne Walker, ACE, Senior Pest Control Technician with the Department of Housing at the University of Florida noticed many dead pantry beetles and weevils under Maxforce FC Roach Bait Stations that were originally placed for cockroach control (Fig. 1). His mention of this observation to Bayer Environmental Science employees created interest in research with these products and these pests.

Research was conducted in-house and with respected contract researchers on the major pantry pest beetle species. Results presented at the 2007 Entomological Society of America International Research Conference showed that both products proved extremely effective in controlling the pests.

How to Use:

Of course, the best course of action is always to follow the basic tenets of integrated pest management (IPM). A thorough inspection should be conducted to identify and remove the infested foodstuffs before applying the bait. Applications of the bait should be handled in the same manner as is done for cockroach control by applying small amounts of gel bait in voids, cracks and crevices, behind and under cupboards and other difficult to reach areas where insects may hide. Containerized bait stations should be placed adjacent to voids or cracks and crevices in the same types of areas. Labels are available on the BackedByBayer.com website.

The application rate of gel is dependent on the level of infestation. For light to moderate infestations 1 to 2 dime sized spots or a bead of 1 1/2 to 3 inch bead per square yard should be applied. For heavy infestations the application rate should be doubled.

For effective control using the containerized bait stations, use 4 to 6 stations per 100 square feet of horizontal surface area but do not place more than 24 bait stations in a residence. The stations will adhere to a vertical surface by peeling off the protective strip on the back of the station.



Fig. 1. Dead stored product pests below Maxforce FC Roach Bait Station.

The use of either of these products in the field will help PMPs become more efficient and profitable because PMPs will only have to remove infested foodstuffs, but not have to cover other foodstuffs. Additionally, these passive treatments are a “greener” option than traditional insecticide applications.

Contributed by Dr. John Paige III and Dr. Phil McNally

Always read the label and follow the directions carefully.

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