

Spinosed

What is Spinosed?

Spinosad is a natural substance made by a soil bacterium that can be toxic to insects such as ants, mosquitoes, fruit flies, leaf miners, and head lice. It effects the nervous system of insects when they touch or eat it. It eventually kills the insect, but this may take some time. Spinosed is of **low toxicity** to humans and other mammals. It has been registered for pesticide usage by the FDA.

Spinosed is found in about 80 pesticide products, many used on agriculture crops to eliminate crop destruction from pests. Some of these products are even approved for use in organic agriculture.

Is Spinosed toxic to humans?

There have been no studies that have concluded with a link between Spinosed and cancer. Animals fed low to moderate doses of the pesticide for 18 months to 24 months showed no evidence of cancer. The offspring of these animals also showed no signs of cancer or deformities. It has also not been found to cause alterations to genes.

Is Spinosed toxic to the environment?

Spinosed does not move through soil easily and does not enter the ground water. It is broken down by sunlight, and in the top layers of soil, it is rapidly broken down by microbes.

It is non-toxic to mildly toxic to earthworms, and aquatic invertebrates, but extremely toxic to bees. However, evidence suggests that it has little or no effect on honeybees and other beneficial insects after sprays have dried.