



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY  
BOARD OF PESTICIDES CONTROL  
28 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

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**MAINE BOARD OF PESTICIDES CONTROL POLICY—DEFINITION OF  
BIOLOGICAL PESTICIDE AS IT RELATES TO CHAPTER 29 SECTION 5**

Revised March 31, 2017

**BACKGROUND**

The Board discussed questions that arose during the spring of 2016 relative to interpretation of the term “biological pesticide” as used in Section 5 of Chapter 29, which regulates pesticide applications for control of browntail moth adjacent to marine waters. The staff pointed out that when this rule was originally written, it contemplated that “biological pesticide” would primarily include strains of *Bacillus thuringiensis* and similar microbial pesticides. With the recent increase in browntail moth populations, questions have arisen about other active ingredients which are derived from organisms. Staff indicated that the term “biological pesticide” is now commonly perceived to include pesticide active ingredients consisting of single cell organisms or products derived from organisms. At the January 11, 2017 meeting, the Board reviewed various options and adopted an interpretation of the term “biological pesticide,” which was subsequently amended at the March 31, 2017 meeting.

**POLICY**

For the purposes of Chapter 29, Section 5, the term “biological pesticide” includes any microbial pesticide that contains the microorganism and byproducts normally associated with the organism, as approved by the Board.

As of March 31, 2017 the Board has approved:

Spinosad  
*Bacillus thuringiensis* variety *kurstaki*  
Azadirachtin