



RABBIT REPELLENTS



Repellents must be used according to label instructions. Carefully follow directions on dilution, rates of application, and number of repeat treatments permitted. In the typical urban situation where problems with cottontail rabbits occur, generally it is garden crops that are damaged. Normally, repellents are **not designed or recommended** for use on plants grown for human consumption.

Repellents can be classified as area (odor) or contact repellents. Area repellents, which include bloodmeal, ammonium soaps of higher fatty acids (Hinder), bone tar oil (Magic Circle Rabbit Repellent), and other similar repellents, are used during the growing season. Ammonium soaps of higher fatty acids are applied more frequently, especially after rains.

Contact repellents applied during the growing season must be reapplied as new growth emerges. Apply contact repellents such as Thiram, Ropel and Millers Hot Sauce directly to the plants because rabbits are repelled by the taste. Thiram, one of the safest and most effective contact repellents, generally is used during the dormant season. Thiram is water soluble and a sticker must be added. (Stickers are listed on the Thiram label). Normally, one application of Thiram with a sticker will last the entire dormant season. Repellents can be brushed, sprayed, or dipped onto the plants and should be applied 18 to 24 inches above the expected snow depth. Follow label directions closely when handling, applying and storing repellents.