



## MOSQUITO DUNKS

UP Community Mosquito Control  
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### Mosquito Dunks and Mosquito Bits: How They Work and Where to Get Them

#### How They Work

Mosquito Dunks and Mosquito Bits are formulations containing Bti (*Bacillus thuringiensis* subspecies *israelensis*). Bti is a naturally occurring bacterium, found in soils. Bti contains spores that have evolved to produce toxins that specifically target larvae of mosquitoes, blackfly, and fungus gnat.

Because the Bti toxins are specific to a particular species, they cause no harm to humans, pets, other species (including pollinator insects), or plants. The toxins are completely biodegradable, so they do not accumulate within any food chain.

Mosquito Dunks are sold as 2" disks that float in pools such as GAT mosquito traps, birdbaths, and fishponds. Mosquito Bits are sold as smaller granules for sprinkling on the surface of shallow water such as standing puddles.

#### Maintenance: If the Dunk Has Sunk, You Must Replunk!

Mosquito Dunks are effective for as long as they float or about 30 days. When they sink or dissolve, add another. Mosquito Bits should be refreshed every 1-2 weeks.

#### Where to Get Them

Mosquito Dunks and Mosquito Bits are sold at many local nurseries, garden supply stores, home improvement stores, and online retailers.

#### For More Information

1. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "Bti for Mosquito Control"  
<https://www.epa.gov/mosquitocontrol/bti-mosquito-control>
2. National Pesticide Information Center, 2015. "Bacillus Thuringiensis -- General Fact Sheet"  
<http://npic.orst.edu/factsheets/BTgen.pdf>
3. Summit Chemical Company. "Mosquito Dunks" and "Mosquito Bits".  
<https://www.summitchemical.com/mosquito/mosquito-dunks/>  
<https://www.summitchemical.com/mosquito/mosquito-bits/>
4. Bravo A, Gill S, Soberón M (2007). "Mode of action of Bacillus thuringiensis Cry and Cyt toxins and their potential for insect control". *Toxicon*. **49** (4): 423-35.  
doi:10.1016/j.toxicon.2006.11.022. PMC 1857359. PMID 17198720.  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1857359/>