

### **What about insecticides?**

All those sensory organs on the insect are also how they could absorb other materials in their environment. Of course they can absorb chemicals sometimes directly through their skin (integument) where it is quite membranous and soft. Contact insecticides work by coming into direct contact with the insect and being absorbed (sometimes a shoe works just as well). We spray other materials on surfaces that are meant to last - these are more often absorbed through the insects feet and the sensory organs there. Indiscriminate use of these materials have a profound effect on our wildlife including the insects and fireflies.