

India supplies insecticides to Iran to tackle locusts

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- State owned insecticide manufacturer HIL (India) Ltd has supplied about 25 tonnes of **Malathion 95% ULV** to Iran to help the country control the locust menace. Malathion is a chemical mainly used to protect food-producing plants from insects.
- Malathion, also called carbophos is a broad-spectrum **organophosphate insecticide** and acaricide. It kills insects by preventing their nervous system from working properly. When healthy nerves send signals to each other, a special chemical messenger travels from one nerve to another to continue the message.
- The nerve signal stops when an enzyme is released into the space between the nerves. Malathion **binds to the enzyme and prevents the nerve signal from stopping**. This causes the nerves to signal each other without stopping. Due to the constant nerve signals, the insects can't move or breathe normally and they die.

Source: The Week, PIB

[continuation of <https://www.manifestias.com/2020/06/05/locust-attack-in-gujarat/>]