

# **Insect repellent apparel: a novel approach to pest control**

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## **Abstracts**

The incidence of diseases caused by insects which bite humans, such as mosquitoes, flies and ticks, is widespread. Worryingly, insect-borne diseases which are endemic in tropical and sub-tropical parts of the world are spreading to temperate regions such as Western Europe and the USA. The causes of this spread include globalisation, an increase in international trade and travel, and climate change. Insect repellent apparel provides consumers with a safe, convenient and cost-effective method for preventing the discomfort and major health risks associated with biting insects. As yet, the market for insect repellent apparel is still in its infancy. However, the prospects for growth are strong -- particularly in the light of increasing participation in activities such as camping and trekking which are pursued in environments where insect activity is rife. The need for insect repellent apparel has been highlighted by an alarming increase in the number of cases of some insect-borne diseases, such as dengue. As a result, scientists are stepping up their efforts to develop insect repellents which provide protection against dangerous insects and satisfy growing demand from consumers for insect repellent products which are safe and pleasant to use and are environmentally sustainable. This report provides a wealth of information, insight and analysis on the effects of insects on humans, the demand for insect repellent products, and the market for insect repellent apparel. Furthermore, the report provides insight into the advantages, applications and types of insect repellent apparel, insect repellents used to treat apparel, methods of imparting insect repellent properties to garments, efficacy testing and regulations, and an outlook for the future.

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