CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A consumer product comprising an insect- or acarid-repellant composition characterized by comprising:

(a) a first active ingredient selected from methyl anthranilate;

(b) a fatty acid selected from the group consisting of oleic acid, ricinoleic acid, linoleic acid, palmitic acid, steric acid and any mixtures thereof;

(c) optionally at least one additional active ingredient;

(d) a pharmaceutically suitable topical carrier; and further comprising

(e) an additional compound selected from the group consisting of a surfactant, emulsifying agent, a pH modifier, a thickening agent, an anti-oxidant, a preservative, a skin conditioning agent, an emollient, a humectant, a silicone moiety, an anti-inflammatory, a sun blocking agent, a topical anesthetic, vitamins, an antipruritic, an antibiotic, antifungal, an antiseptic, a vasoconstrictor, and any mixtures thereof;

wherein the ratio of first active ingredient to fatty acid is about 2:1 to about 5:1.

2. The consumer product of claim 1, characterized in that the fatty acid is selected from the group consisting of oleic acid, ricinoleic acid, linoleic acid palmitic acid, stearic acid, and any mixtures thereof.

3. The consumer product of claim 1, characterized in that the fatty acid is oleic acid.

4. The consumer product of claim 1, characterized in that the emulsifying agent is selected from the group consisting of polysaccharide ethers, polyglycosides, fatty acids, fatty alcohols, amine oxides, water-soluble cellulose, alkyl sulfonates, ethoxylated alkyl phenols, alkanolamides, betaines, zwitterionic surfactants, carboxylated alcohols, carboxylic acids, ethoxylated C_{12}-C_{15} alcohols, polysorbates, behentrimonium methosulfate, isopropyl myristate, ethoxylated castor oil and any mixtures thereof.

5. The consumer product of claim 1, characterized in that the thickening agent is selected from the group consisting of carboxylic acid polymers, crosslinked acrylic acid with allyl ethers of sucrose, crosslinked polyacrylate polymers, polyacrylamide polymers, polysaccharides, gums and any mixtures thereof.

6. The consumer product of claim 5, characterized in that the polysaccharides are selected from the group consisting of cellulose, carboxymethyl hydroxyethylcellulose, cellulose acetate propionate carboxylate, hydroxyethylcellulose, hydroxyethyl ethylcellulose, hydroxypropylcellulose, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, methyl hydroxyethylcellulose, microcrystalline cellulose, sodium cellulose sulfate, chitosan and any mixtures thereof.

7. The consumer product of claim 6, characterized in that the pharmaceutically suitable topical carrier comprises water, glycerin, lecithin, a fatty acid or any combinations thereof.

8. A non-therapeutic method for repelling insects or acarids characterized by applying the composition of claim 1 to the surface of a human or an animal.