

IMPORTANT AND TIMELY INFORMATION FROM CAMDEN COUNTY MOSQUITO EXTERMINATION COMMISSION

There is a new species of mosquito in your neighborhood

Adult and immature mosquitoes of the species *Aedes Albopictus* are collected during special surveillance by this Commission. Many people throughout the county are complaining about being bitten during the day - which is a characteristic of this mosquito. This mosquito is also called the Asian Tiger Mosquito and its introduction into the United States in 1985 and into New Jersey in 1995 stimulated widespread media coverage.

There is only a small connection between this mosquito and West Nile Fever, which was introduced in New York City 1999 and is now found throughout New Jersey.

The Asian Tiger Mosquito is native to and fairly common in Japan, Korea, China and India. The mosquito apparently originated as a forest species that deposits its eggs into water in tree holes and leaf pockets of certain specialized plants. The Asian Tiger Mosquito has now adapted to small water holding locations supplied by humans. The mosquito deposits its eggs in small containers by gluing the eggs to the side of the container at the water line. The eggs must go through a drying period before they are ready to hatch. When rain raises the water level in the container again, the eggs hatch and the mosquitoes develop as larvae, pupae and then adults. The time for development from hatching egg to flying adult takes 7 to 12 days. The dry eggs can wait a few years to be flooded and then hatch.

The small containers of water favored by the Asian Tiger Mosquito include tin cans, plastic buckets, cemetery urns, dishes under flowerpots, trashcans, recycling buckets, pool covers, pockets or folds in tarps and discarded tires.

The Asian Tiger Mosquito is highly ornamented having a black background that is highlighted with bright white markings. While it is slightly less than 1/4 inch long and smaller than some other New Jersey mosquitoes, it has an irritating bite. The Asian Tiger Mosquito is a persistent biter, which will feed as often during broad daylight as it will at dusk. This characteristic of biting during the day makes it extra annoying.

The Mosquito Commission will continue to treat for this and all other nuisance and potential disease vector mosquitoes in the county. Homeowners can help themselves and the entire neighborhood by dumping out stagnant water wherever it collects for one week or more. This effort does not require the use of insecticides - just dumping the water on the ground will kill the mosquito larvae.

Please check your property and kindly ask your neighbor to check his or hers! For conditions off your property call the Mosquito Commission at 856-566-2945.

This is a service of the County of Camden. For more information and mosquito related links see:

www.camdencounty.com - the Mosquito Commission is in Depts. & Agencies