



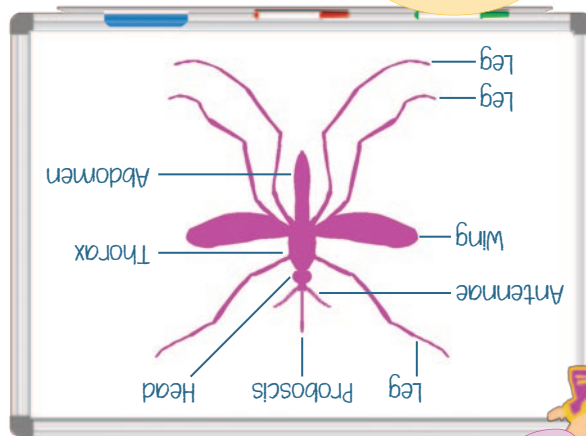
© Chris Shields

Only female mosquitoes bite, they need blood to develop their eggs. Males only feed on flowers and are potential pollinators.



The dinosaurs disappeared but the mosquitoes are still with us. Scientists think they appeared at the same time as T-Rex and velociraptors.

Mosquitoes have outlived the dinosaurs!



Mosquitoes are 2 winged insects with 6 legs, slender bodies and a proboscis (mouthparts).

Mosquitoes are Diptera.



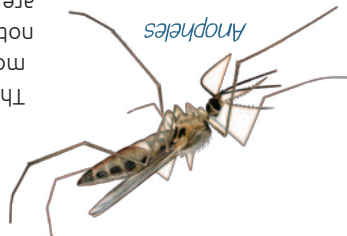
Illustrations © Chris Shields



Aedes



Culex



Anopheles

There are around 3,500 mosquito species but not all of them bite. Here are the three genera that cause problems.

Meet the biters!

Aedes invasive mosquitoes life habits



Ae. aegypti mosquitoes prefer to live near people. They also prefer to bite people over domestic animals.



They can live indoors and outdoors.



Ae. aegypti and *Ae. albopictus* don't fly long distances – probably only a few hundred metres from where they hatch.



Ae. albopictus mosquitoes bite people and animals, they can live around our homes or in nearby woods. They only live outdoors.



You can help too, by recording *Aedes* invasive mosquitoes using the Mosquito Alert App www.mosquitoalert.com/en



We are Dr Kelly Martinou and Professor Helen Roy – scientists fascinated by insects. To find out how to become a citizen scientist and record mosquitoes, visit alien-csi.eu or contact us: thethreemosquiteers@gmail.com



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The Three Mosquiteers learn about Aedes invasive mosquitoes



Hi, I am Mo.

mosquito alert



Chubby



Hi, I am Do.

mosquito trap



Hi, I'm Ski, and today we will find out about *Aedes* invasive mosquitoes.



mosquito dipper

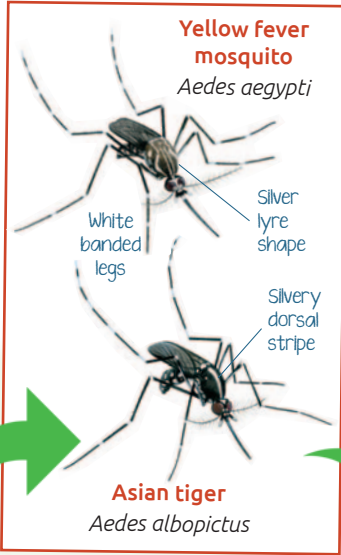


MEOW

Aedes invasive mosquitoes

life cycle

Meet the invaders!



Pupae live in water. They develop into adult, flying mosquitoes in 2-3 days

Eggs stick to container walls



Adult female *Aedes* spp. lay eggs on the inner walls of containers with water, above the waterline

Aedes spp. only need a small amount of water to lay eggs. Bowls, cups, fountains, tires, barrels, vases, and any other container storing water make a great home. In forested areas they can also egg lay in tree holes.



Native to Asia

and Africa they have been introduced worldwide. *Aedes* invasive mosquitoes can hitch-hike on trade goods such as tyres and plants, boats, planes and cars. They are hard to control and early warning is essential. They cause diseases such as Zika, yellow fever, dengue and chikungunya.



Pupa

Larvae live in water. They develop into pupae in as few as 5 days

Eggs hatch within a few days to months when covered with water

Adapted from www.cdc.gov/odhhr/imageuse



Eggs can survive drying out for several months. Mosquito eggs can even survive a winter.

Protect yourself and others



Wear repellent and long sleeves.



Use bed nets and screens at home.



Adult mosquitoes fly but all the other stages live in water.

Mosquitoes are not very choosy when it comes to water: wetlands, ponds, lakes, marshes, brackish water, stagnant water, tree holes, rain barrels, pots, plant saucers and tyres are all suitable homes for mosquitoes.

How many mosquito homes can you find shown above?



Turn over unused objects in your garden where mosquitoes can breed.



Try to avoid using chemical insecticides: mosquitoes become resistant and these chemicals are harmful to beneficial insects such as bees and ladybirds.

