

MOSQUITO

101



SOME MOSQUITO FACTS

Scientific Facts About Mosquitoes and Their Control

Elmore County

Pest Abatement District

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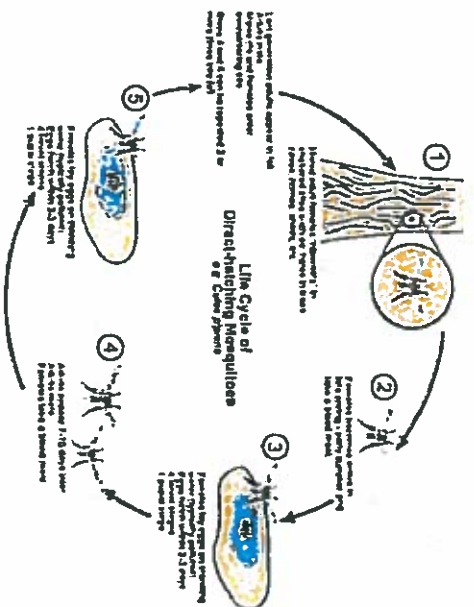
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- Idaho is the home of approximately 51 species of mosquitoes.
- Some of the mosquito species found in Idaho are:
 1. Western Equine Encephalitis Mosquito (*Culex tarsalis*). A West Nile Virus vector.
 2. Northern House Mosquito (*Culex pipiens*) a West Nile Virus vector. Sometimes can be found inside houses in the winter time.
 3. Inland Floodwater Mosquito (*Aedes vexans*) Eggs laid in dry soil and hatch after flooding. A daytime biter.
 4. Irrigated Pasture Mosquito (*Aedes sierrensis*) and Salt Marsh Mosquito (*Aedes dorsalis*). Both are ferocious daytime biters.
 5. Winter Marsh Mosquito (*Culiseta inornata*).
 6. Western Malaria Mosquito (*Anopheles freebornii*)
 7. Tule Mosquito (*Culex erythrorhax*). Usually found in low numbers, feeds primarily on birds and is a West Nile Virus vector.
- Only female mosquitoes bite; they need protein to produce eggs.
- Mosquitoes are attracted by carbon dioxide (CO₂), body odor, temperature and movement by humans and other animals.
- The female mosquito can live from 3 to 100 days.
- Female mosquitoes can lay from 100 to 300 eggs at a time and from 1000 to 3000 eggs in her lifetime.
- Male mosquitoes live from 10-20 days.
- Mosquitoes need water to complete their life cycle. (From egg, larvae, pupae to adult). The water needs to be still or stagnant.
- Most mosquitoes stay within one mile from where that hatches. Some can travel as far as 20 miles.

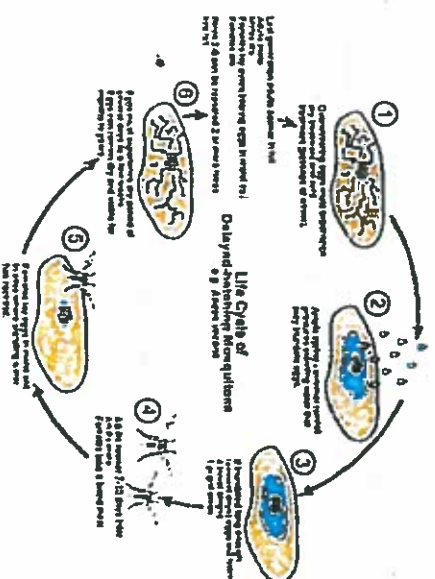
SOME MOSQUITO PRODUCTION SITES

- ✓ Neglected swimming pools, bird baths, water features and pools, pet dishes,
- ✓ planters, leaky hoses, clogged rain gutters.
- ✓ Tree holes, landscape depressions, storm drains.
- ✓ Swimming pool and boat covers, old tires.
- ✓ Wetlands, drain fields, ponds.



Example: Northern House Mosquito (*Culex pipiens*)

MOSQUITO LIFE CYCLES



Example: Inland Floodwater Mosquito (*Aedes Vexans*)

MOSQUITO CONTROL

MOSQUITO 101 FINAL EXAM

THE MOST DANGEROUS ANIMAL IN THE WORLD

- Wolves: 2 deaths per year.
- Grizzly Bears: 7 deaths per year.
- Honey bees: 54 deaths per year.
- Lions: 250 deaths per year.
- Australian Jelly Fish: 300 deaths per year.
- Elephants: 600 deaths per year.
- Tsetse Fly: 250,000-300,000 deaths per year.

THE MOST DANGEROUS ANIMAL IN THE WORLD

The **Bite of a MOSQUITO**, which is responsible for over 2.10 MILLION deaths a year due to disease such as Malaria, Dengue Fever, Western and Eastern Equine Encephalitis and West Nile Virus.

MOSQUITOES IN IDAHO

THAT TRANSMIT WEST NILE VIRUS

- **Culex tarsalis:** Western Equine Encephalitis Mosquito.
- **Culex pipiens:** Northern House Mosquito
- **Culex erythrorhynx:** Tule Mosquito.

All the above mosquitoes are produced in permanent water such as ponds, wetlands, storm drains, abandoned swimming pools and or any site or container that can hold water for a length of time. With hot weather, these mosquitoes become very active and these sites can produce mosquitoes within a few days.

Culex mosquitoes can be easily identified by its blunt behind (abdomen)



LEARN AND FOLLOW THE 7 "Ds"

- **DRAIN** any standing water that may produce mosquitoes.
- **DUSK** and **DAWN** are the times to limit outside activity during the active mosquito season, especially with the reported presence of West Nile Virus.
- **DRESS** appropriately by covering as much as exposed skin as possible when outdoors in areas of mosquitoes.
- **DEFEND** yourself against mosquitoes by using an effective insect repellent containing DEET, OIL of Lemon Eucalyptus or Picaridin. **FOLLOW ALL LABEL DIRECTIONS** when applying insect repellent. **When applying repellent to an infant or child, apply the repellent to your hands first, then apply to children.**
- **DOORS** and windows should be kept in good working conditions. Screens need to be kept repaired and free of holes and damage.
- **DISTRICT** personnel are here to help with any mosquito problems from advice and consultation to providing mosquito abatement operations on your property. Please Call our District at: 587-2304

MOSQUITO ABATEMENT FACTS

- Mosquito control insecticides and materials are applied at very low rates: Adult mosquito control insecticides are applied at rates as low as 0.5 ounces per acre.
- Insecticides that are applied to water sources are very specific towards mosquito larvae and some other types of midges only and will not harm other aquatic life.

- Mosquito control insecticides and products make up less than one third of 1% of all pesticides applied.
- Mosquito Abatement personnel are well trained and are licensed with 15 recertification credits every 2 years.
- Mosquito Abatement Districts follow I.P.M. (Integrated Pest Management) principles: Public Education, Disease Testing, Mosquito Surveillance, Biological and Physical Control efforts and Microbial & Chemical control.

1. Mosquitoes are attracted by sweets and bright colors.
True False
2. Mosquitoes have how many basic life cycle stages?
A. 7 B. 2 C. 4
3. Male mosquito bites can transmit many diseases including Dengue Fever, and West Nile Virus.
True False
4. Most mosquito species stay within 1 mile of where they hatch.
True False
5. The female mosquito only lives a few hours after biting.
True False
6. It is OK to spray insect repellent on an infant or child.
True False
7. Approximately how many species of mosquitoes are found in Idaho?
A. 90 B. 7 C. 51
8. The male mosquito only lives 10 to 20 days.
True False
9. Can mosquito larvae generally live in running water?
Yes No
10. Mosquito control insecticides are the most used of any insecticide applications. True False
11. The Culex mosquito which is a vector (transmitter) of West Nile Virus can be identified by its blunt behind or abdomen. True False
12. Diseases such as Dengue Fever, Malaria and West Nile Virus are highly contagious and are spread readily from people to people. True False

Answers:

1. False
2. C
3. False
4. True
5. False
6. False
7. C
8. True
9. No
10. False
11. True
12. False