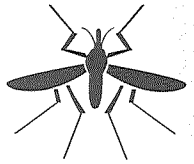
The Asian Tiger Mosquito



Scientific Name: *Aedes albopictus*

Appearance: Black mosquito with striking white markings on the body and legs.

Personality: Very aggressive, daytime biter.

Her Favorite Meal: Human blood is preferred but she will feed on other mammals and birds.

Preferred Breeding Sites: She lays her eggs in artificial containers sometimes before they collect water or above the water level. These can be as big as an abandoned swimming pool or as small as a bottle cap. Additional places she may lay her eggs are tires, flowerpots, roadside trash (cups, cans & bottles) and black corrugated drain pipes.

Daytime Hangouts: Anywhere cool and shady. Ivy, azaleas, bushes and other shrubs are her favorite resting places.

Health Risk: The Asian tiger mosquito is known to be an effective vector for a variety of diseases including West Nile Virus, Yellow Fever, Dengue Fever and dog heartworm.

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www.westnile.state.pa.us

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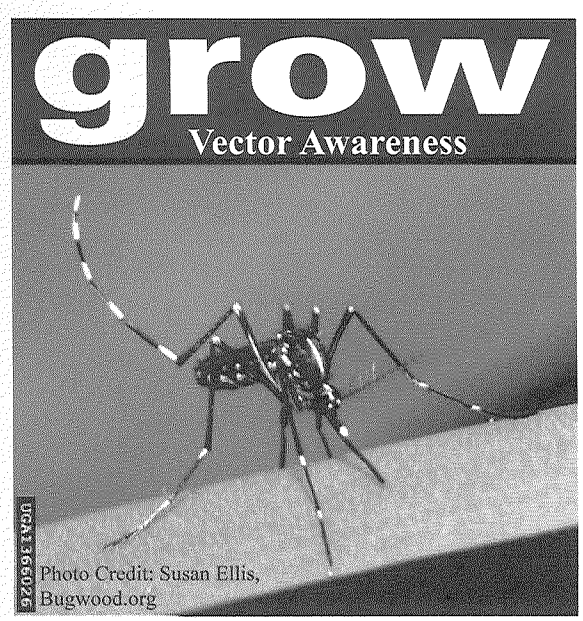

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College Of Agricultural Sciences
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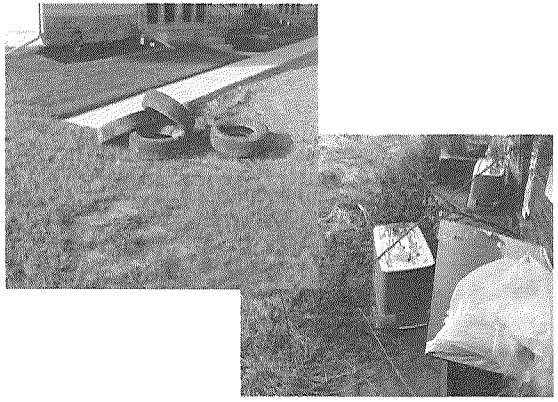
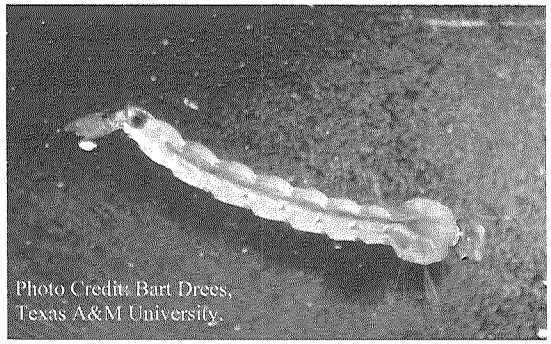
West Nile Virus Program

Ways to Protect Yourself and be Free of Mosquitoes

Eliminate Mosquito Breeding Sites Around Your Home and in Your Community

- Female Asian tiger mosquitoes lay their eggs in artificial containers. These can be as big as an abandoned swimming pool or as small as a bottle cap.
- Containers that cannot be emptied (such as abandoned pools or gutters) should be treated with an insecticide that specifically targets mosquito larvae. Check with your local garden center or hardware store for products that contain Bti (*Bacillus thuringiensis* subspecies *israelensis*).
- Be sure that the community you live or work in is free of trash (cans, bottles, plastic bags, cups, etc.) and yard clutter. Asian tiger mosquitoes are not strong flyers but will search for a blood meal flying from one house to another. If the area around your home is clean they may be breeding in trash within a 1/4 mile of your home.





Protect Yourself and Family from Bites

- Wear light-colored and loose fitting long pants and long sleeve shirt to avoid mosquito bites.
- Apply an insect repellent to exposed skin when outdoors.
- The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends using repellent products containing DEET, picaridin or oil of lemon eucalyptus. (Make sure you choose and use the repellent that works best for you.)
- Do not allow young children to apply insect repellent to themselves. Always have an adult help them.
- REMEMBER to always read and follow the label instructions when using insect repellents.

Everyone Needs to Help! Clean up Your Community and York County

- Make sure your own community is clean; free of trash, debris and clutter.
- Participate in the annual Great PA Cleanup. www.greatpacleanup.org
- Participate in an Adopt-A-Highway location. www.dot.state.pa.us and select More links.