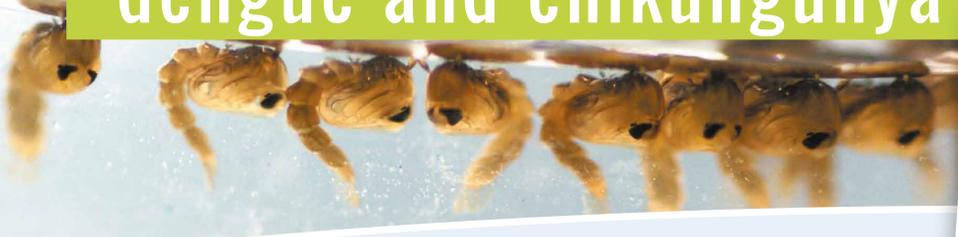


Aedes Mosquitoes

dengue and chikungunya



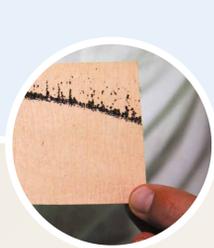
Name *Aedes albopictus*
 Length 5 mm
 Longevity as a biting insect 3 weeks
 Special feature **black and white stripes**, the reason why it is known as the 'tiger mosquito'.

Biology of the vector

In towns, these mosquitoes find 'homes' (recipients containing the water needed for the larval stages) and 'food' (human blood for the female insects). Larvae develop anywhere that water accumulates. Females bite during the daytime.



Name *Aedes aegypti*
 Length 7 mm
 Longevity as a biting insect 3 weeks
 Special feature **a lyre-shaped pattern on the thorax**



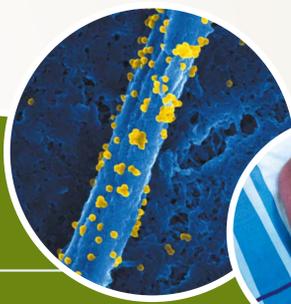
Geographic distribution

Distribution of *Aedes albopictus* in 2014



Aedes albopictus originated in Asia and has recently spread to Africa, Latin America and temperate regions in Europe and America.

Aedes aegypti is found everywhere in the tropics. Eggs, can remain dormant for several months and this has allowed the mosquito to spread to different continents.



Vector transmission

Aedes aegypti and *Aedes albopictus* cause intense transmission of dengue and chikungunya viruses in the tropics, with increasingly frequent and serious epidemics of both diseases. The number of new cases of dengue has increased 30-fold in the last 50 years.

The chikungunya virus causes serious fever. It affects articulations in particular and recovery is slow.

Dengue can be fatal.

Today, the dreaded tiger mosquito is well established in Europe and North America.

The vector now causes the local transmission of viruses imported by people infected during stays in areas in which the diseases are endemic.



Prevention and control

There is no medication for the two diseases. Control of the vector is still the only solution:

- Elimination of stagnant water that is propitious for larvae
- Spraying of chemical or organic pesticides to reduce the density of the adult mosquito population
- Use of repellents to reduce bites

Dengue and chikungunya are spreading in the wake of the tiger mosquito