



Maryland Department of Agriculture

Agriculture | Maryland's Leading Industry

Office of Plant Industries and Pest Management

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The Asian Tiger Mosquito

The Asian tiger mosquito is a very aggressive day-biting mosquito which has become a serious pest in parts of your county. It is a black mosquito with white stripes on the legs and a white stripe down the middle of its head and back. It is very aggressive and will bite whenever people or animals are available, but it is also skittish and hard to swat. Often, you will not feel it biting and it tends to stay near the ground (you may get bitten on the legs only).

This mosquito lays its eggs in containers or holes in trees. It is closely tied to human habitation and any container in your yard which will hold even a small amount of water for a week or more can breed the tiger mosquito.

Keeping this mosquito controlled in your area will take an organized community clean-up effort. Please check your yard for water-holding containers such as:

- tires
- kiddie pools not in use
- buckets, barrels or cans
- wheelbarrows, canoes or boats
- tarps where water can puddle
- flower pots or saucers under pots
- flexible corrugated drainpipe

Either empty, store or rinse these containers out weekly. Don't forget rain gutters - these can breed large numbers of mosquitoes if not cleaned so that they flow.

The State's mosquito control program cannot adequately control this species due to its habits. It breeds in containers in people's yards which we cannot treat and nighttime spray operations are not very effective for the tiger mosquito because it rests in sheltered areas which the spray will not reach. If you want more information about the tiger mosquito, call your town office, or call the nearest mosquito control office.

Mosquito Control Section

Annapolis (Headquarters) (410) 841-5870

Central & Western Maryland (301) 422-5080

Eastern Maryland (410) 543-6626

Southern Maryland (301) 373-4263