
Our Mission:

Our mission as the Auburn University Mosquito Research Team is to improve the public health of Alabama by providing a better and more widespread understanding of the mosquitoes of our state.

During the summer of 2018, we will be sampling mosquitoes in every county of Alabama to estimate the potential of mosquitoes in our area to spread disease. Since mosquitoes tend to breed in the stagnant waters of artificial containers, our sampling sites often include places like public cemeteries, run-down parks, and tire shops. With the help and cooperation of our fellow Alabamians, we hope to raise public awareness of mosquitoes and the diseases they carry and ultimately increase the well being of every citizen of our state.



Follow our research at
www.aumosquitoteam.wordpress.com

Auburn University Mosquito Research



Frequently Asked Questions

Will I get in trouble if you find mosquitoes on my property?

Absolutely not. Our goal in conducting this research is simply to see what mosquitoes are prevalent in Alabama and what diseases they might be carrying. We will NOT report any businesses or business owners to outside organizations, and NO business names will be included in the results and publications of our research. We support Alabamians and their businesses!

Why do you still want to sample from my business if I've told you I use insecticides?

Another goal of our research is to examine insecticide resistance in mosquitoes, which is a completely normal and common occurrence in all insects. Even if you tell us that you spray your tires, we'll probably still ask to sample them! Mosquitoes collected under these conditions will help us learn how mosquitoes adapt to overcome insecticides and how scientists can develop more effective insecticides in the future.

What kind of mosquitoes are you taking?

Whatever kind we can get! Our research is focused mainly on a species called *Aedes aegypti*, which was recently re-discovered in Alabama after a 26-year absence. This mosquito is important to public health because it can transmit some of the most dangerous mosquito-borne diseases, such as Zika, chikungunya, dengue, and yellow fever. However, we're also interested in the general distribution of all types of mosquitoes in Alabama, so you'll see us sample as many mosquitoes as we can. We do this by sucking them up with our mosquito vacuums (called "aspirators"), which look sort of like the vacuums used in Ghost Busters. You may also see us collecting mosquito larvae (called "wrigglers" due to their swimming movements) from the waters of artificial containers.

How can I keep mosquitoes off my property?

The best way to limit mosquito populations on your property is to destroy their breeding grounds, which are the water contents of man-made containers. Turn over your tires daily to disturb their aquatic contents, and throw out any unnecessary containers that might be collecting water (and mosquito larvae!).



Contact us

From all of us on the Auburn University Mosquito Research Team, we want to say thank you for supporting our work! If you have any questions or concerns, you can contact our project coordinators using the information below.

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