

Mosquitoes Worldwide

Anopheles gambiae



The main vehicle of the deadliest malaria parasite, *Plasmodium falciparum*, these mosquitoes contribute to the death of more than a million people a year.

Distribution: Tropical Africa

Breeding habitat: Shallow pools and puddles often in hoof prints and tire ruts near human dwellings.

Feeding: Bites humans almost exclusively; has an apparent penchant for smelly feet.

Diseases: Also transmits the O'nyong-nyong virus and worms that cause lymphatic filariasis, a disfiguring and incapacitating disease.

Aedes aegypti (Asian tiger mosquito)



Transmits yellow fever and dengue (also called “breakbone fever”), a rapidly spreading viral disease that causes excruciating joint and muscle pain and in some forms can progress to a deadly hemorrhagic fever.

Distribution: Tropical and subtropical regions across the globe.

Breeding habitat: Water-containing trash and water storage vessels (plant pots, old cans)

Disease: also transmits Chikungunya and Sindbis viruses, both of which cause severe fever, rash, and arthritic pain.

Culex quinquefasciatus (Southern house mosquito)



The dominant vector of lymphatic filariasis, a disease caused by threadlike parasitic worms. It can lead to genital damage and elephantiasis.

Distribution: Tropical and subtropical regions across the globe.

Breeding habitat: Mainly in drains, cesspits, and other polluted water bodies.

Feeding: Mammals, including people, and birds.

Diseases: Also transmits St. Louis encephalitis and West Nile Virus.

Aedes albopictus



The fastest spreading mosquito in the world; extremely well adapted to living around people, known to travel in used tires.

Distribution: Rural and green urban areas, almost worldwide.

Breeding habitat: Water-containing trash.

Diseases: Believed to spread dengue and La Crosse encephalitis; may occasionally transmit eastern equine encephalitis, St. Louis encephalitis, and West Nile virus.