

Mosquitoes

Part 1: Play Your Part: Mosquito

Control in Your Community



Featuring: Dr. Eva Buckner

Main Ideas

- Mosquitoes can be a vector for diseases that are a risk to people and animals.
- Overuse of pesticides can lead to pesticide resistance.
- Mosquitoes are tested statewide to gauge pesticide resistance.
- Mosquitoes are easiest to kill while larval stage.
- Dr. Buckner researches a mosquito control approach called auto-dissemination, a process where adult mosquitoes that are exposed to a larvicide can disseminate it to larval breeding sites.

Discussion Questions

1. Why is it a problem if mosquitoes become resistant to pesticide treatments?
2. What steps can you take to control mosquitoes around your home?
3. Why is mosquito control important?
4. What local mosquito programs are available in your area?

Tips from the Speaker

1. Reduce stagnant water around your property by draining pots or buckets.
2. Use approved larvicide in bird baths.
3. Use fish to eat mosquitoes and larvae in ponds.
4. Contact local mosquito control programs for a service request.

Other Resources

preventmosquitoes.org
edis.ifas.ufl.edu/entity/topic/mosquitoes

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Part 2: The World's Deadliest Animal:

Mosquito-borne Illnesses



Featuring: Dr. Ricky Telg and Dr. Rhoel Dinglasan

Main Ideas

- Following the Zika virus outbreak, the public became more concerned about mosquito control.
- Mosquito education leads to awareness and prevention.
- Half of the world's population is at risk for mosquito-borne diseases, including Malaria and Dengue Fever.
- Vector biologists study the pathogen, the human host environment, and the vectors themselves.

Discussion Questions

1. Why do disease outbreaks like the Zika virus cause people to become more interested in mosquito control?
2. Why is it important to educate the public on mosquitoes and mosquito-borne illness?
3. How does studying pathogens, human host environments, and vectors benefit the scientific community?

Tips from the Speaker

1. Vector control is dependent on community support.
2. One of the overall goals of vector control is to improve the quality of life for populations.
3. Utilize resources to educate yourself on mosquitoes and vector-borne mosquitoes.

Other Resources

preventmosquitoes.org
cdc.gov/ncepid/dvbd/about/prepare-nation/coe.html

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