

Aedes aegypti (Linnaeus)

OVERWINTERING STAGE: Egg.

PHENOLOGY: Multivoltine.

LARVAL HABITAT:

Larvae are found almost exclusively in artificial containers. This is an urban species with close ties to human habitation.

HOST PREFERENCES:

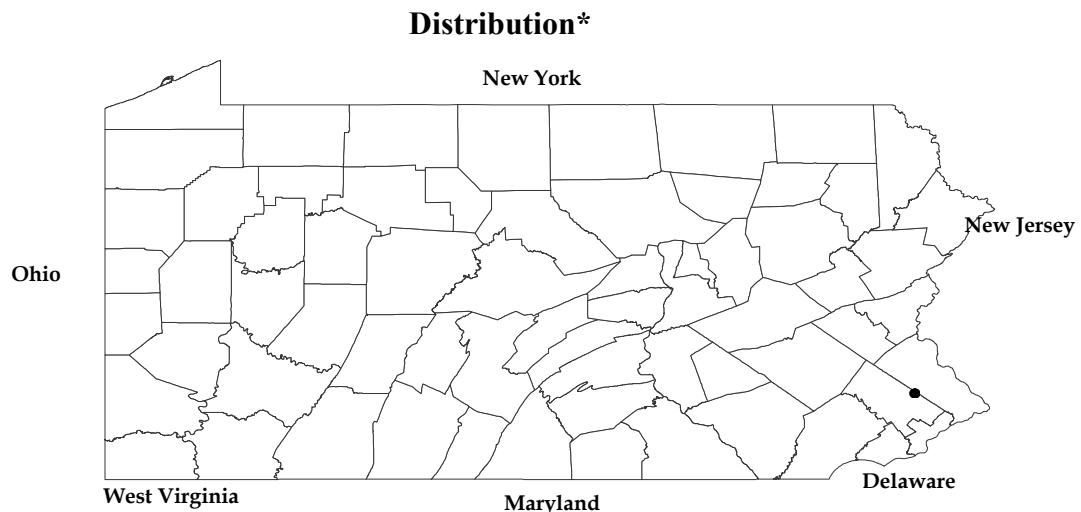
Females are aggressive day-biters that feed almost exclusively on humans. Host-seeking females tend to stay low to the ground and they prefer to bite the lower extremities of the body. Large mammals serve as secondary hosts when human hosts are unavailable.

VIRUS TESTING RESULTS:

Only 13 specimens have been tested for West Nile virus and the results were negative.

COMMENTS:

Ae. aegypti is an introduced species to North America and has been established here for several hundred years. It is one of the world's most troublesome species both with respect to pest activity and disease transmission. It is the primary vector of both Dengue and Yellow Fever in parts of the world where those viruses are present. Historical populations existed in Pennsylvania and were no doubt responsible for outbreaks of yellow fever that killed about 3,500 people in the Philadelphia area from late 1790's to the early 1800's. A small, transient population of females and a single larva were collected at one locality in Bucks Co. in 2002. It is doubtful that eggs of this species can successfully overwinter as far north as Pennsylvania.



*Historical records from Philadelphia area not shown