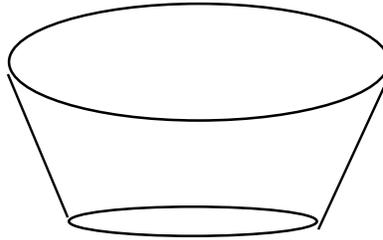


NATURAL MOSQUITO TRAP

NEEDS

20 - 30 gallon LDPE stock tank
Rainwater
4 - 5 Gambusia fish
low oxygen water plants
plant containers
pebbles
pea gravel
shady location
freshwater snails

BLACK OVAL TUB - LDPE



Check your local feed supply

OPTIONS

Surrounding foliage
tank aerator
dig in the tank
concrete tank - permanent
dry/cold season feeding

Important
**Your mosquito trap will be a community service,
it will attract the insects from a large area.**

Set up

- 1) Purchase or gather all the items listed above you require for your trap. choose a location away from general human activity, shaded and wind protected. (This will be ideal both for humans and the mosquito)
- 2) Partly (or fully) excavate a hole for the tank and secure
- 3) prepare and place the containers of water plants, with pebbles to weight down the soil, then scatter the pea gravel around the bottom of the tank.
- 4) Fill with rainwater, and always refill with rainwater.
- 5) Allow one day for settling
- 6) introduce the Gambusia (mosquito fish), snails and observe for one week to establish health and attractability to mosquitos

MAINTENANCE

- Observation
- remove debris
- check water level
- replace dead plants
- keep chem free
- no direct sun = no algae
- option - occasional aeration for plants/fish

Plant examples -
Bulrushes, Lucky bamboo, Azola, Water hyacinth, Umbrella plant.



SEASONAL ASPECTS

- during dry seasons (May - July and October - November) give weekly Guppy flake food (a pinch) until the mosquitos return with the rains.
- during cold season December - February, keep from freezing and feed (or replace prior to the season).

Prevention

Before considering ways to kill the larvae in areas of your landscaping where you intentionally keep standing water, let's look at some of the sources of standing water that you might not immediately think of:

- Water buckets, rain barrels, bottles, cans, empty plastic pots and old car tires (notorious rain-catchers).
- That wheelbarrow you've been meaning to bring inside, as soon as you fix its flat tire....
- Boat tarps or pool covers in which water can puddle.
- Uneven areas in lawns or gardens where irrigation water can collect. (for more than 3 days)
- Up inside clogged rain gutters and clogged drains. Plus, seepage from septic tanks.
- Birdbaths (w/ no fountain pump) and water bowls for pets.
- Keep swimming pools clean, aerated and chlorinated.
- Aerate artificial ponds. And avoid excessive aquatic plantings (mosquito larvae can hide from the fish).

Other Natural methods to live *with* the Mossie's

When you are outside for extended periods take a high dose of Vitamin B1 or Garlic 1/2 hour before.

Use yellow Porch lights not white incandescent.

When sitting outside in the summer use a fan to blow away the insects

Plant pots of Lemon Balm near sitting areas and entry doors. # Use Diluted Garlic Spray, around plants and doors.

A bacteria called "Bti" (*Bacillus thuringiensis*) is often used for mosquito larvae control in standing water.

Use of Staphysagria 6C , homeopathic drops taken internally, will deter mosquitos.

Sources of Gambusia

Free Fish available from:

<http://www.maricopa.gov/wnv/>

Maricopa County Environmental Services, Vector Control, 3343 W. Durango, #3911, Phoenix, AZ 85009 (602) 506-0700

Use the same website above to sign on the notification list for the spraying schedule.

Very Important do not release any Gambusia into any natural waterway !!! They are non-native predators.

1. **Insecticides are highly toxic.** By spraying insecticides in your house, you are subjecting your loved ones and your health to potentially dangerous side effects. At times, even more dangerous than the mosquito itself..... See Below.....

2. **Conventional mosquito repellent**, whether it's in spray, liquid, cream, stick or pre-moistened towelette form usually contains an active ingredient called **N-N-diethyl-meta-toluamide (DEET)**. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has received reports on **side effects or adverse reactions** such as headache, nausea, seizures and fainting **after the use of DEET** on skin. Spray DEET on clothing rather than your skin..

3. **Self proclaimed natural mosquito repellents are not effective.** They contain Citronella, a natural extract from lemon scented grass. Though relatively safer than other options, tests conducted showed that they **provide only minimal protection** against mosquito bites as their repellent properties are weak and **may last for only 10 to 20 minutes**. You need to constantly reapply!

4. As for other 'As See On TV' **electronic repellents**, they last only for hours and before you know it, mosquitoes are back and you have to buy **costly refills** again! Time after time you have to do this and you end up spending a fortune on refills! Not only that, you have to take extra efforts to make sure the refills are always available when you need them!

5. **Anvil** - The Pesticide used by Vector Control. A synthetic pyrethiod containing sumithrin, piperonyl butoxide and other ingredients.

Toxic to fish, bees and aquatic arthropods, And harmful to humans and their pets.

Web Address to Labels, maps and more.. <http://www.maricopa.gov/envsvc/water/vector/Resources.asp#3>

WNV is transmitted to humans by the bite on an infected mosquito, however less than 1 percent of all mosquitoes are infected. Approximately 20 percent of people infected with West Nile Virus will feel symptoms. Most people who experience symptoms will have: Fever, Headache, Body aches, Nausea ,Vomiting, Sometimes swollen lymph glands or a skin rash on the chest, stomach and back. A small percentage of people who are infected with WNV will experience severe symptoms such as meningitis, encephalitis, paralysis and even death. Persons over the age of 50 are generally at a higher risk for severe symptoms. More information can be found at: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/index.htm>