Monitoring the mosquito *Aedes aegypti*: A novel surveillance method and new entomological indices using the gravid trap MosquiTRAP® and a synthetic oviposition attractant (AtrAedes®)


Federal University of Minas Gerais, Belo Horizonte, Brazil
alvaro@icb.ufmg.br

MosquiTRAP® is a novel, simple, easy, low cost, and efficient trap especially developed to catch *Aedes* mosquitoes. It relies on visual cues and synthetic oviposition attractants (AtrAedes®), based on volatiles identified from grass infusions. Compared to ovitraps, MosquiTRAP® allows the identification of the mosquito species in the field, thus saving time and avoiding laboratory routine such as counting eggs and larval identification. Trapped mosquitoes can also be used for virus diagnosis. New entomological indices are (a) the Positive MosquiTRAP Index (PMI), the percentage of positive traps, and (b) the Adult Density Index for *A. aegypti* and for *A. albopictus*. Field data can be collected using hand-held PDAs and then loaded directly into a Geographical Information System (GIS), for an efficient determination of local entomological indices. At the moment, a national monitoring program in Brazil using this technology is being established.

**Grants:** CNPq, SVS, IFS, FINEP-FVA, SEBRAE, Ecovec Ltda.