

HABITS

- Females:
 - Prefer to feed on birds, but will feed on livestock and rarely man.
 - Feed primarily at dawn and dusk.
 - May feed on nectar and plant juices but need a blood meal for proper egg development.
 - Capable of moving 1-2 miles seeking a host
- Males:
 - Do NOT bite.
 - Feed on nectar and plant juices

ECONOMIC AND MEDICAL IMPORTANCE

- Do occasionally create domestic, industrial, and agricultural pest problems due to large numbers from such sources.
- Western Equine Encephalitis (WEE) has been isolated from natural populations of this species.
- Their reluctance to bite man reduces their efficiency as disease carriers.

CONTROL

Prevention and Corrective Methods:

- Preventing mosquitoes from breeding is the best method.
- When possible, remove sources of standing water by filling, dumping, ditching, or otherwise draining the source.
- Only rarely found in containers about the home.

Biological Control:

- The stocking of mosquito fish is often effective in sources such as fish ponds, pools, and watering troughs.
- Other biological control measures are currently being investigated.



Chemical Control:

- Chemical control should only be practiced by a trained mosquito abatement or health department official.
- Chemical control only provides temporary relief and is used only until other prevention methods can be used.
- Insect repellents may be useful if necessary to be in an area where these are present

CULEX STIGMATOSOMA

A Foul Water Mosquito



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GENERAL INFORMATION

- Referred to as a “foul water” mosquito due to its association with polluted water.
- Dark, medium-sized
- White band on its beak and white bands on the legs
- Black scales that form “o” spots on the underside of the blunt-tipped abdomen.
- Lacks white stripes on the hind legs.
- Male resembles the female but has bushy antennae and “claspers” on the tip of their abdomen.
- Found throughout the United States from Washington to Mexico.
- Prefers to lay eggs in polluted standing water in places such as sewage, street drainage, industrial waters, and backyard sources including swimming pools, ornamental ponds, cooler drain-water, and fowl

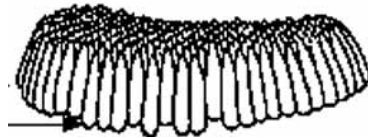


Life Cycle

Mosquitoes have four distinct life stages. The first three stages are spent in the water.

1. Egg

- Lays 150– 200 eggs in clusters called “rafts” that float on the surface of the water until they hatch.

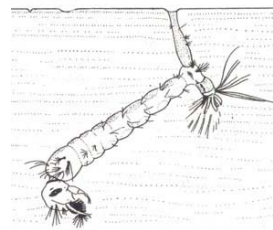


- Females prefer laying eggs in polluted, standing water sources.

- This stage lasts up to two days.

2. Larvae

- The eggs hatch into larvae (wigglers).
- Feed on small organic particles and microorganisms in the water.
- Hang from the water surface by the tip of their tail when they feed.
- This stage can last up to 10 days.



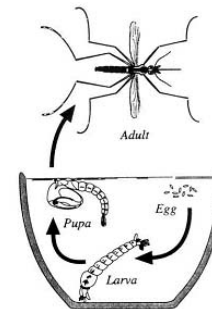
3. Pupa

- The mosquito larva molts into an aquatic pupa (tumbler).
- Only active if it is disturbed.
- This is the “resting” stage of the mosquito’s life.
- This stage can last up to two days.



4. Adult

- Depending upon temperature and food in the water, development from egg to adult can take up to two to three weeks.



- Life expectancy of an adult female usually ranges between two weeks