



Annual Meeting

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***Aedes albopictus* (Skuse) (Diptera: Culicidae) trap performance at different heights in north-central Florida suburban and sylvatic locales**

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Aedes albopictus has a natural propensity to feed on hosts 1 meter from the ground. We examined the response of host-seeking *Ae. albopictus* to three commercially available traps (BG Sentinel, Mosquito Magnet-Experimental, Omni-Directional Fay-Prince) placed at 1 and 6 m heights in suburban neighborhoods and in San Felasco State Park, Alachua County, Florida from May to September 2007. All traps were baited with CO₂ and an attractant (BG-Mesh Lure) and allowed to run continuously for 48 hours within four suburban and four sylvatic sites. Although a greater number of adults were captured at 1 m than at 6 m, results indicate that *Ae. albopictus* will seek hosts above 1 m. Fewer *Ae. albopictus* were captured in sylvatic sites than in suburban neighborhoods. Other mosquito species collected in sufficient numbers included *Ochlerotatus infirmatus* (Dyar and Knab), *Ochlerotatus triseriatus* (Say), *Culex nigripalpus* Theobald and *Psorophora ferox* (von Humboldt). These results may have implications on disease transmission between hosts and how control efforts are implemented. In addition, these results demonstrate that the BG Sentinel trap may be a useful tool for sampling *Ae. albopictus* and *Oc. triseriatus* adults, especially in suburban neighborhoods.

Species 1: Diptera Culicidae *Aedes albopictus* (Asian tiger mosquito)