

## Mosquito Control

Over 60 mosquito species occur seasonally in Oklahoma from March to first frost in November. Mosquito populations are greatly influenced by weather.

The mosquito has four stages in its life cycle; egg, larva, pupa and adult. Eggs, larva and pupa all must have water to develop. Females lay eggs on water surfaces or on areas that later become flooded. Eggs of some mosquitoes hatch in two to three days; others require a dry period and may be dormant for months. Once eggs are hatched, they become mature in roughly ten to fourteen days. However, the time to go from eggs to adult may be as short as five days to as long as seven months depending on environmental conditions. Mid to late May rains often result in an abundance of mosquitoes in June.

Repellants can protect humans from mosquito bites from one to five hours. Repellants contain diethyl toluumine (brands: Deet, Off, Cutter, etc.) or ethyl hexonediol (brands: Rutgers 6-12 or 6-012 Plus). Peromone is a repellent to use on clothing but not on skin. This product is a good supplement for the products above that can be applied to skin.

To help prevent breeding sites, drain temporary rainfall pools, empty or room, artificial containers (old tires, tin cans).

Use mosquito dunks - B.t.i. product that is available for breeding site control. Other B.t.i. products are Bactimos, Vectobac and Teknar. For adult mosquito control, spray screens, shrubs and around doors and windows with space sprays such as Malathion or Pyrethrin.