

WHAT STEPS ARE THE MAZARRÓN TOWN COUNCIL TAKING?

The local council employs specialized vectorial control technicians.

Possible sources of mosquitos, such as hedges, ditches, ornamental fountains, and in general any point where water may accumulate are inspected throughout the year.

Since the Asian Tiger Mosquito reached Spain these precautions have been extended to detect their possible arrival in Mazarrón. However, this insect usually breeds in privately owned areas as it needs only a small quantity of water to deposit its eggs, so any small container where a tiny amount of water can collect is sufficient.

It isn't possible for the local council to check the private property of every resident. Therefore the **following recommendations are designed to help prevent the troublesome spread of the Asian tiger mosquito.**



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ATTENTION

Asian Tiger Mosquito



You could have a source of **Asian Tiger Mosquitos** in your backyard, in the dishes under your flowerpots, jars, ashtrays, fountains, buckets...

Learn how to defend yourself

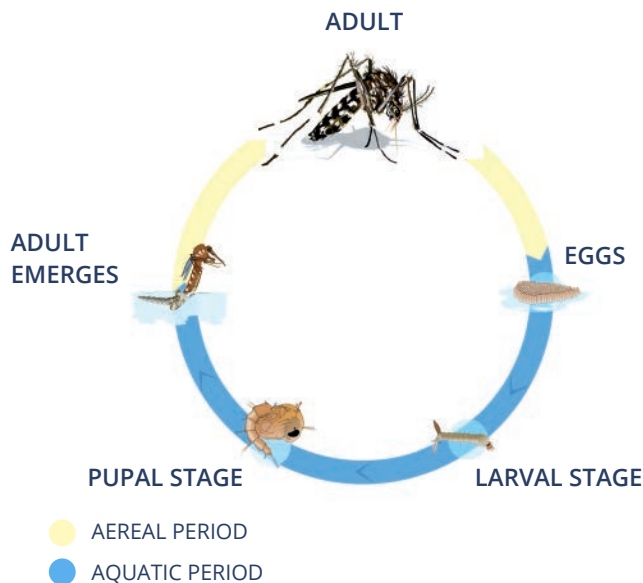
The BIOLOGY of the Asian Tiger Mosquito

This mosquito is catalogued as an invasive species originating in Asia, spread by the international trade in commodities, since it nests in such places as spare tyres and ornamental plants. It was first identified in Spain in the summer of 2004, in San Cugat del Vallés (Barcelona), and has since been spreading throughout the Mediterranean area.

Although it is capable of transmitting infectious diseases, no cases of such infections have so far come to light here.

It is the female mosquito which “bites”, since it needs blood proteins to fertilize its eggs. These are then deposited in small quantities of stagnant water, more often than not on private properties where the local government’s precautions cannot reach.

Mosquito life cycle



WE ARE ALL INVOLVED IN PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF THE TIGER MOSQUITO!

A resident can contribute by:

- 1 **Removing containers which gather stagnant water** (buckets, barrels, ashtrays, dishes under plantpots, fountains...), to eliminate breeding spots.
- 2 **Ensuring adequate levels of chlorine in pools and ponds all year long**, to prevent them from breeding there.
- 3 **Covering wells and cisterns with mosquito nets.**
- 4 **Keeping a close eye on drip irrigation**, avoiding the formation of small pools by overwatering.
- 5 **Changing the water for pets every 2 or 3 days.**
- 6 **Adding water into drains and sewers** at least weekly, to avoid standing water.

**YOUR COLLABORATION
WILL HELP US ALL**

DON'T GET IT WRONG

It's important not to confuse the tiger mosquito with other small flying insects called “chironomidae” (non-biting midges), huge clouds of which appear at dawn and dusk. These only last for a few days and cause no public health problem.

The tiger mosquito DOES STING. Its bite is painful and can penetrate thin clothing. It doesn't form clouds, but flies alone.



· Chironomidae

