A novel tool to combat *Aedes* mosquitoes that transmit Dengue, Chikungunya, Yellow Fever and Zika virus

*Dengue*, *Chikungunya*, *Yellow Fever* and *Zika* virus are rapidly spreading mosquito-borne viral diseases. They are difficult to diagnose and treat, and mosquito control is the only option to stop transmission.

*Aedes* mosquitoes are difficult to control as they lay their eggs in very small breeding sites and have become resistant to chemical insecticides. The In2Care™ Mosquito Trap attracts and kills *Aedes* females with novel green ingredients that target both mosquito larvae and adults. It is the first to exploit the concept of ‘auto-dissemination’, resulting in an effective kill of mosquito larvae in breeding sites surrounding the Trap.

In2Care™ Mosquito Traps can be placed outdoors at a recommended density of 1/400 m² (10 Traps per acre) and be maintained every 4 weeks using refill sachets. The product lends itself perfectly for use in vector control programs, particularly in hotspot areas, and by professional pest management companies for *Aedes* mosquito control services at resorts, hotels and residential sites.

Unique larvicide auto-dissemination

*Aedes aegypti* can transmit Dengue, Chikungunya and Zika virus to humans. They are attracted to small man-made breeding sites and have a unique egg-laying behaviour; spreading eggs over several breeding sites to minimise risks for their offspring.

The In2Care™ Mosquito Trap exploits this behaviour by contaminating the female mosquito body and using her to spread larvicide to multiple breeding sites around the Trap. Via this “auto-dissemination” the Trap can kill virtually all mosquito larvae in its surroundings before these become biting adults. In this way small cryptic breeding can be effectively controlled.
**How does it work?**

The In2Care® Mosquito Trap is made of durable plastic and uses water with an odor lure to attract egg-laying *Aedes* mosquitoes. Once inside, mosquitoes contact the specially treated gauze near the water surface and get contaminated with a larvicide and a fungus. We exploit the fact that *Aedes* like to divide their eggs over multiple sites; by letting them fly out of the Trap whilst carrying larvicide on their legs. They transport the larvicide and contaminate several breeding sites around the Trap. In this way, we can kill larvae in small and hard to find breeding sources. The mosquito also gets infected with an insect-specific fungus that kills her before she can spread disease.

**A multi-impact tool:**
- Kills all larvae inside the Trap
- Kills larvae in surrounding breeding sites
- Kills exposed mosquitoes
- Stops virus development

**An environmentally friendly solution**

Insecticide resistance has become a major problem in countries infested by *Aedes* mosquitoes. Area-wide insecticide fogging is still being used but is showing limited efficacy and major impacts on non-target organisms. This necessitates a switch to more sustainable, environmentally friendly vector control. The In2Care® Mosquito Trap is the first Trap that uses a biological control agent to kill mosquitoes. It deploys an US-EPA-approved fungus that kills the mosquito several days after infection and can prevent disease transmission. The Trap larvicide is US-EPA-approved and WHO-recommended for mosquito control and use in drinking water. Both bioactives have short half-lives and pose very low risk for non-target organisms.

In2Care® Mosquito Traps deploy a small dose of bioactive mixture in an enclosed point-source environment that is specifically attractive to mosquitoes. Only tiny amounts of larvicide will get spread to other breeding sites (mostly small man-made containers), which is enough to kill mosquito larvae (as <10 ppb PPF works well) but not enough to cause risk for non-target organisms like fish or mammals. In this way, our Traps offer an effective mosquito control option without drastic use of chemicals in the entire environment.
Published & Field validated Results

In2Care® Mosquito Traps were initially developed and scientifically validated in our mosquito laboratory using wild-type Aedes colonies (www.parasitesandvectors.com/content/7/1/200).

The Trap deploys a very special type of gauze developed by In2Care. It holds the bioactives via electrostatic binding forces, which enables a high dose transfer when mosquitoes make contact and causes high levels of mortality (see http://www.pnas.org/content/112/39/12081.full.pdf).

Field efficacy studies were performed in Trinidad, Cayman Isl and Florida, USA. The Manatee County Mosquito Control District tests for US-EPA registration used local strains of Aedes aegypti and albopictus. Results confirmed that the fungus effectively kills mosquitoes several days after gauze exposure (graph A), which allows them to also disseminate larvicide to other sites before dying. There were massive reductions in adult mosquitoes produced in other sites near the Trap; >80% were inhibited from emerging as adult mosquito (graph B). See all results at: http://www.bioone.org/doi/full/10.2987/17-6642R.1

Trap Deployment

This novel tool can complement Aedes vector control efforts and be used to control mosquito hotspots and pockets of persistent breeding. Several Governments, including US Mosquito Abatement Districts and the Trinidad and Hong Kong MoH, are using In2Care® Traps in residential sites and problem areas such as schools & hospitals where insecticide fogging is restricted. The product is also used in community-based Aedes control programs.

Pest Management Professionals deploy In2Care® Mosquito Traps in their Mosquito control services to reduce Aedes mosquito numbers and nuisance at client sites. Many hotels and resorts have been made mosquito free and recommend our product. We have marketing support material, stewardship Programs, Service Models and Instruction Movies available to guide Trap implementation.

Please visit www.in2care.org/marketing to access this information.

How to use

We recommend placement where mosquitoes are likely to breed: in shaded, vegetated places near habitation. In high risk areas we recommend 1 Trap per 400m² (10 Traps per acre). Trap maintenance (topping up with water) is recommended at regular intervals and reactivation with a fresh refill sachet is recommended every 4 weeks.

Mosquitoes are not trapped but are contaminated. Because of its slow-killing action, you will see live larvae in the Trap water, but these will die before becoming adults. When deployed properly in a large enough area, In2Care® Traps will effectively reduce the numbers of Aedes mosquitoes and the risk of virus infections. For optimal impacts, we recommend an integrated approach with breeding source reduction and insecticide barrier treatments for non-isolated sites. Effects will become most noticeable after the first 2 weeks of deployment because the next mosquito generation is affected.
The In2Care® Mosquito Trap includes:

- Durable 5L water reservoir
- Lid with click-on mechanism
- Floater (to carry the gauze strip)
- Green time indicator cap (servicing reminder)
- Optional securing tools
- Refill sachets (gauze, bioactives & attractant tablets) for reactivation every 4 weeks

We can provide:

- Customized deployment support
- Trap servicing and monitoring support tools
- Field trial protocols
- Marketing support tools available

In2Care® Mosquito Traps have been registered and are being sold in >30 countries in the Americas by our authorized distributor Univar Solutions and other partners. Our Traps have been approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for professional use in US states. Univar Solutions is our exclusive distributor in the US. In Asia and the Pacific, we have product sales approval in more than 10 countries including Singapore, Thailand, Hong Kong, Papua New Guinea and Fiji and our local distributors are currently registering the product in >15 additional countries.

For more information on and application options, please contact us via info@in2care.org or call Univar Solutions at: 1-800 888-4897 or www.pestweb.com

About In2Care

In2Care BV is a private limited company registered and based in the Netherlands. Our team of medical entomologists and product developers has its core expertise in developing science-based novel and user-friendly insect control products. In2Care has in-house R&D capacity including mosquito rearing, and collaborates with renowned scientific institutes to validate the efficacy of our innovative products. We have field study protocols available and can be consulted for advice on scientific studies and operational implementation. We go beyond product development to deliver sustainable, affordable and user-friendly solutions to combat mosquitoes that transmit some of the worst infectious diseases in the world.

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