Invasive Aedes By the Numbers

“The long-term impact of invasive Aedes on our districts’ operations will be catastrophic.”

INVASIVE AEDES ARE SPREADING LIKE WILDFIRE

Districts across the state report:
- By the 3rd year of detection they had proliferated over the entire city
- Year over year increase was 309%
- 2015: 1 sq. mi; 8 cities; 2019: 100 sq. mi; 31 cities

INVASIVE AEDES HAVE A MASSIVE IMPACT ON MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICTS’ BUDGETS

“Labor costs
Equipment costs
Testing costs
Pesticide costs
Surveillance costs

Invasive Aedes =

“We had to increase our budget by 34% in FY 18/19 for staffing, equipment, chemicals and outreach to deal with the Aedes infestation.”

Districts across the state report:
- Need for year-round technicians as opposed to seasonal staff
- Approximately 1000% year-over-year increase in service requests and call volume
- Outreach has increased approximately 500%
- Increased costs for surveillance, pesticides and new equipment including Aedes-specific traps and batteries
- Approximately $12,000 per travel-related Aedes disease case in 2019

INVASIVE AEDES REQUIRE INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

Invasive Aedes mosquitoes exploit small and cryptic water sources and have shown resistance to many commonly used insecticides, limiting the efficacy of traditional control approaches.
- New technologies including a form of Sterile Insect Technique that utilizes a naturally-occurring bacteria called Wolbachia are being evaluated. When Aedes males are infected with a particular strain of Wolbachia and then are released to breed with wild female mosquitoes infected with a different strain of Wolbachia the resulting offspring are not viable.

“Initial trials using Wolbachia in Los Angeles County and Fresno County show great promise, but districts need funding to get these abatement techniques off the ground.”

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