

Miami-Dade County conducts fourth aerial spray treatment in Miami Beach

MIAMI (September 24, 2016) —

Miami-Dade County's Mosquito Control Section completed the fourth aerial treatment for adult mosquitoes on Miami Beach in the area between 8th and 28th Street from the Bay to Ocean. Treatment using an EPA-approved adulticide was successfully completed at 6:17 a.m. today. Aerial spraying, in conjunction with truck larvicing and an aggressive ground effort in the area where local Zika transmission has been confirmed, has resulted in a significant reduction in the adult *Aedes aegypti* mosquito population.

Prior to the start of the combined truck larvicing and aerial adulticiding treatments, mosquito averages for traps placed in the area were as high as 45 mosquitoes. Over the four-week treatment period, counts have been reduced to an average of five and remain steady. The graph below illustrates the trap data from August 21 through September 23 and the mosquitoes' response to the dual-treatment protocol which was also used successfully in the Wynwood community.

"The graph below is clear evidence of the success of the mosquito control efforts implemented in Miami Beach, said Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Gimenez. "We're seeing the same downward trend in the mosquito population that we saw in Wynwood following the adulticide and larvicide treatment cycles. And the mosquito counts in that community continue to remain low," Gimenez added.

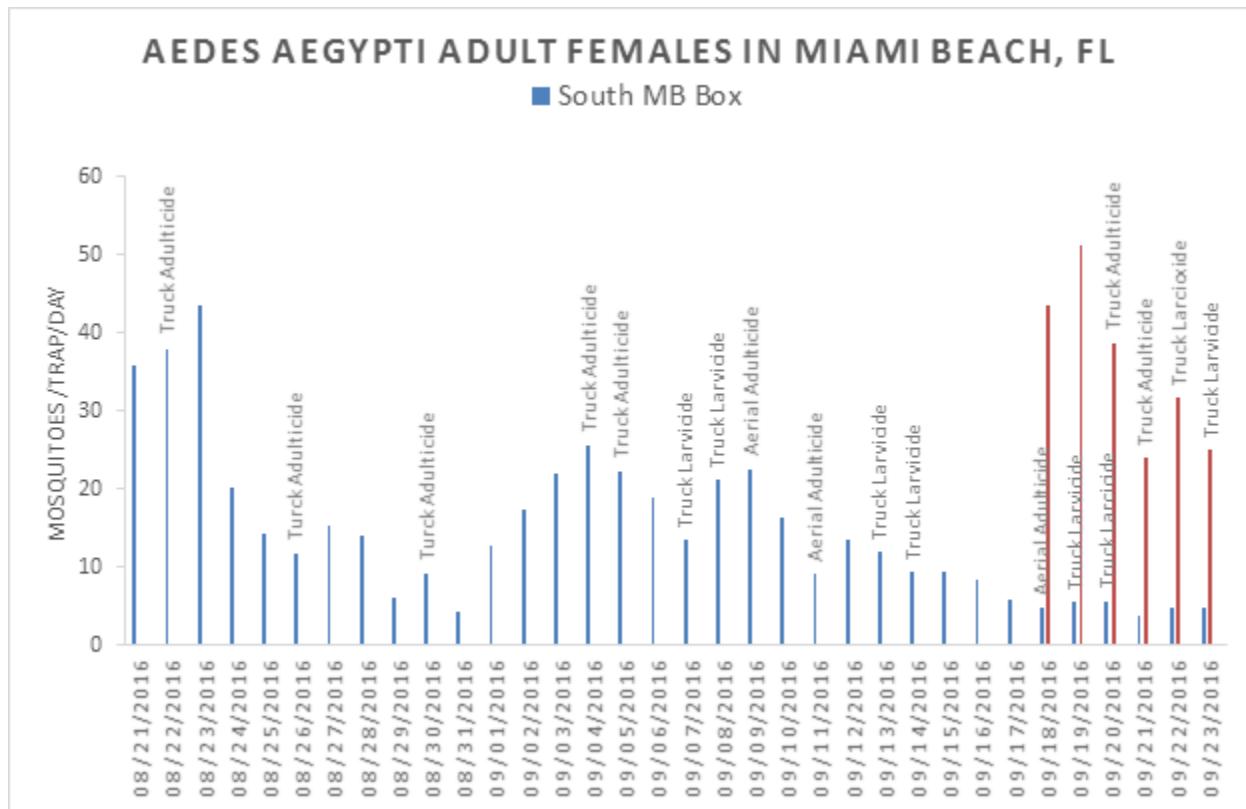


Figure 1 - Miami-Dade County Mosquito Control 9-24-16

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has praised Miami-Dade's mosquito control efforts and acknowledges the success that aerial spraying had in the Wynwood community. "The message with Wynwood is it was a huge success," Dr. Lyle Peterson of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, said earlier this week. "This outbreak would have kept going without the aerial spraying," Peterson added.

CDC staff assigned to the Emergency Response Team responding to the Zika challenge in Miami has stressed the importance of knocking down the adult Aedes aegypti mosquito which is the vector for the Zika virus. CDC staff advises that when there is active transmission of the Zika virus, killing the adult mosquitoes is critical. Applying larvicide alone does not eliminate infected adult mosquitoes. When there is an outbreak, the first course of action has to be interruption of virus transmission from adult mosquitoes. The second course of action is to include larviciding to eliminate future generations of adult mosquitoes which can become infected. Using both larvicide and adulticide in the treatment means there are fewer adults and fewer larvae that can become adult mosquitoes.

Miami-Dade County will continue to analyze all data with recognized experts in the fields of public health and medical entomology.

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