

Are you interested in Ecology?

Would you like to support research on British mosquitoes?

Would you allow us to put a mosquito trap in your garden for a single night?

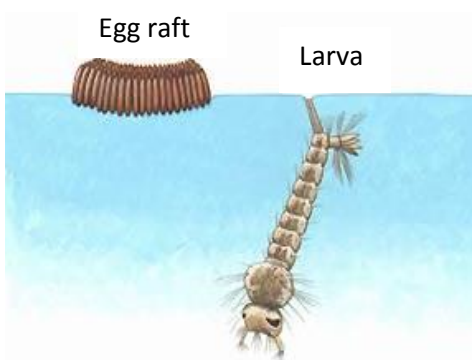
This is a University of Reading project investigating the breeding seasonality and success of Britain's commonest garden mosquito, *Culex pipiens*. The study will compare mosquitoes from urban gardens in Reading with rural gardens in surrounding villages to better understand how breeding success is influenced by landscape type.

We are looking for volunteers in Reading and surrounding rural areas (e.g. Sonning Common, Twyford) who would allow us to run a mosquito trap in their garden for **ONE NIGHT ONLY**. Traps consist of a tray containing nutrient rich water with a toolbox on top that contains a battery powered suction system for collecting adult mosquitoes.

The study will run during May, July and September 2013 with 4 nights of trapping in each of these months. Each volunteer will have a trap in their garden for **one night only** and can choose the most convenient date.



Suitable gardens will have some leafy vegetation to provide the trap with cover. Ideally traps will be placed in front gardens (allowing us easy access and more convenient for you), however back gardens are suitable if access can be provided.



(Image: Richard Allen)

We are particularly keen to have volunteers who suspect that they have mosquito larvae or adults in their garden. Larvae would be breeding in a water butt or pond, under the water surface. Egg rafts float on the water surface (see diagram).

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