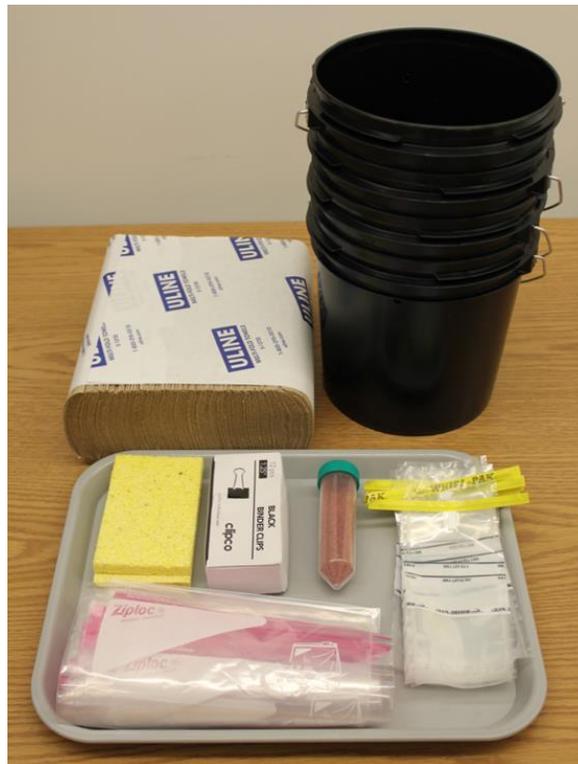


Aedes albopictus Collection and Submission Guidelines

*** If you are using a collection protocol that is already established by your agency please use [these guidelines](#) instead for shipping instructions.**

<i>Item</i>	<i>Number included in kit</i>
Black Buckets with holes (1 gal)	4
Brown Paper Towels	1 pack
Binder Clips	20
Dog Food (pulverized)	1 falcon tube
Whirl-Pak® Bags	20
Ziploc® Bags	20
Large White Tray	1
Sponges	2

Egg Identification Guide



Materials included in the kit

Specimen Collection Procedure

Aedes albopictus larvae and eggs are found in a wide variety of habitats and are often associated with human-dominated habitats. They are often found in standing water contained in both artificial and natural containers and can adapt to an extremely wide variety of containers. To collect *Ae. albopictus* eggs, dark-colored artificial containers can be set out in the field as described below. The eggs of *Ae. albopictus* can be confused with two other closely associated species commonly found in Northeast containers (*Ae. japonicus* and *Ae. triseriatus*). The eggs can be difficult to differentiate, but a general guideline can be found [here](#).

- 1) Wait to sample until June – August to increase your probability of obtaining *Ae. albopictus* eggs in the sampling buckets. Some groups in the southernmost states of our region (Virginia, DC) could start sampling in May.
- 2) Place the **black buckets** on level ground in the location where you will be collecting eggs. Fill the buckets ~3/4 of the way with water. There are 4 holes in the top of the bucket to avoid rain overflow while in the field.
- 3) Take two of the **paper towels** and dip them into the water. Unfold them so that part of the towel is submerged the water. You can either add the towel as shown here or line the whole inside with paper towel. Use the **binder clips** to fasten the paper to the sides of the bucket opposite one another.

(A)



(B)



(C)



Setting-up the collection bucket: (A) dip paper towel in water, (B) clip paper towels to side of bucket, and (C) leave bucket in the field for ~5 days

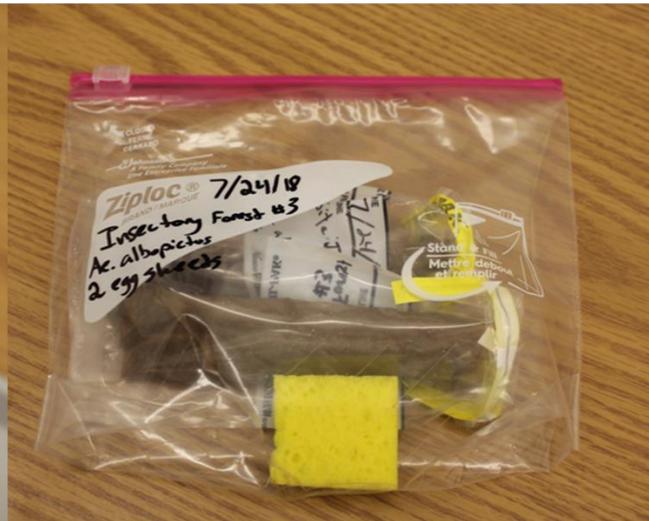
- 4) Measure approximately 1 teaspoon of pulverized **dog food** into the water in the bucket and leave the bucket for one week to collect eggs. If the weather is dry it is advisable to return to the site and add some water to the bucket after a few days to ensure that the paper towels remain moist.
- 5) After five days return to the site, collect the paper towels and place them into Ziploc® bags. Be sure to label the bags with the collection location and date. *Optional: check the buckets daily to ensure that they still contain water and have not been tipped over.*

- 6) Return to the office and if possible, use a compound scope and the [Egg Identification Guide](#) to determine whether *Ae. albopictus* eggs have been laid on the paper. If you are lacking equipment or training, skip this step and submit the specimens and they will be identified once they arrive.
- 7) Place the paper towels on the **white tray** to dry overnight at room temperature. The paper should be slightly moist to the touch, which usually takes between 8 – 12 hours, depending upon the humidity in the room. *Optional: you can check the viability of your eggs by examining them under a dissecting microscope. If they look full and round, they are viable. Eggs that are flattened or concave are dead.*
- 8) Once the papers are dry place them back into the **whirl-pak® bags**. If you wish to accumulate a large number of egg papers before submitting the specimens for analysis add a slightly moistened piece of **sponge** (~1 in²) to a **Ziploc® bag** and place the open whirl pak bag within the Ziploc® bag. Seal the Ziploc® but leave the whirl-pak® bag open. Eggs can be stored for up to one month and should be checked every few days for mold.

(A)



(B)



Shipping the egg papers by (A) packing them in an open whirl-pak® bag and (B) sealing the papers in a larger closed Ziploc® bag and a slightly moist sponge.

- 9) Once the egg sheets are ready to ship, fill out the **Specimen Submission Form** on our website (<https://www.neregionalvectorcenter.com/resistance>) and send it to James Burtis jb766@cornell.edu to notify us of the impending delivery. Please also print out a copy of the form and include in the package so that the label can be matched once it arrives at Cornell University.

Please send the package overnight* to the address below:

Address

James Burtis
Cornell University
129 Garden Ave
3131 Comstock Hall
Ithaca, NY 14853

** If you require a fedex number to send the package overnight, one may be obtained by contacting James Burtis (jb766@cornell.edu). Please note, we cannot support shipping for all agencies, so please only request a fedex number if necessary.*