

Aedes albopictus Specimen Submission Kit

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

<u>Item</u>	<u>Number included in kit</u>
Large White Tray	1
Large Sponges	1
Whirl Pak Bags	20
Ziplock Bags	20

[Egg Identification Guide](#)

Specimen Collection Procedure

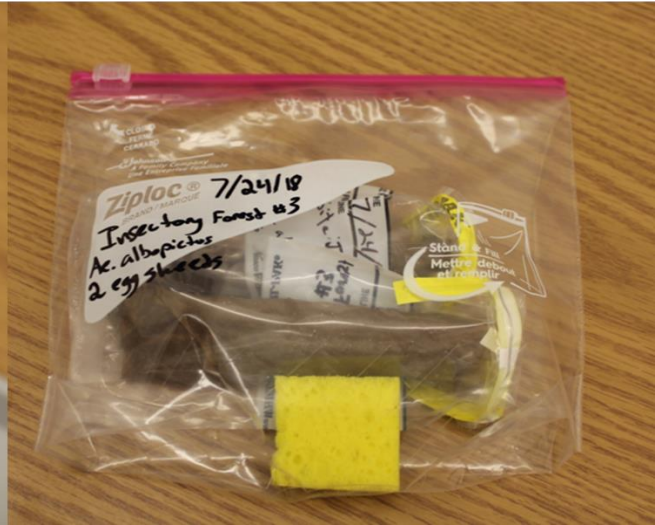
Aedes albopictus larvae and eggs are found in a wide variety of habitats and are often associated with human-dominated habitats. They are often found in standing water contained in both artificial and natural containers and can adapt to an extremely wide variety of containers. To collect *Ae. albopictus* 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 (*Ae. japonicus* and *Ae. triseriatus*). The eggs can be difficult to differentiate, but a general guideline can be found [here](#).

- 1) Return the samples 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. They will be identified once they arrive.
- 2) 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. If your protocol uses thick paper for collections, this may take longer (24 – 48 hours).
- 3) 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 **Ziplock bag** and place the open whirl pak bag within the Ziplock bag. Seal the Ziplock 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 Ziplock bag and a slightly moist sponge. (Egg papers from the same field site can be packed together.)

- 4) Once the egg sheets are read to ship, fill out the [Specimen Submission Form](#) and send it to James Burtis jb766@cornell.edu to notify us of the impending delivery. Please also print out a copy 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:

James Burtis
Tower Road East Blue Insectary
Cornell University
169 Helios Cir.
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.*