

The mosquito species *Aedes albopictus* originated in Southeast Asia, but has spread during the last 30-40 years to North, Central and Southern America, parts of Africa, northern Australia and several countries in Europe. Since its first appearance in Albania in 1979 and in Italy in 1990, *Aedes albopictus* has been reported in more than 15 European countries. It is listed as one of the top 100 invasive species by the Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG, 2009) and is considered to be the most invasive mosquito species in the world.



[Read more about Aedes albopictus](#)

☰ IN FOCUS

Mosquito guidelines

In 2012 ECDC produced guidelines to assist the Member States to implement invasive mosquito vector surveillance and improve coverage and harmonisation of data collection within the EU.

 [Technical report 'Guidelines for the surveillance of invasive mosquitoes in Europe'](#)

[Read more about the mosquito guidelines](#)

☰ RELATED HEALTH TOPICS

☰ DISEASES

Chikungunya

Chikungunya is a mosquito-borne viral disease causing symptoms such as fever, joint pain, muscle pain, headache and nose and gum bleeding.

Dengue fever

Humans are infected with dengue virus through bites of tiger (*Aedes*) mosquitoes. It is present in Asia, the Pacific, the Caribbean, the Americas and Africa.

Viral haemorrhagic fevers

A number of diseases are included under the heading "viral haemorrhagic fevers" (VHFs), with differences in type of virus, geographical distribution, incidence, etc..

☰ DISEASE VECTORS

Aedes aegypti



Mosquito species, originated in south-east Asia but has spread to America, Africa, Australia and Europe.

Aedes albopictus



An important invasive mosquito species that could have an impact on European public health.

Aedes japonicus



An invasive mosquito species, originated in Eastern Asia and the Far East, but now widely established in North America and in parts of central Europe.

Hyalomma marginatum



A hard tick species occurring in southern Europe, southern Asia and Africa.

Ixodes ricinus



An indigenous hard tick species having a wide geographical distribution throughout Europe.