



Ochlerotatus japonicus japonicus Biology

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Ochlerotatus j. japonicus is a newly introduced mosquito to the United States. In North Carolina, it was first collected in Charlotte in 2003 in a bird bath. Currently it is found only west of Interstate 95. This mosquito species is native to Northeastern Asia, occurring predominately in Northern Japan and Korea. *Ochlerotatus japonicus* prefers to breed in rock pools and containers located in the shade of trees or manmade containers. Discarded tires, buckets or other basins are the favored breeding grounds for this species.

Ochlerotatus japonicus may prove to be a troublesome nuisance species and possibly a new vector for disease. We are currently on the lookout for this mosquito in Brunswick County. Research suggests it is rarely collected in light traps but we expect our larval surveillance to find it should it arrive in the county. Once here we will be taking a hard look at it to determine its nuisance and public health importance to the citizens of Brunswick County.