

A mapping tool to assess entomological risk related to *Aedes albopictus* (Life+ project n°LIFE08/ENV/F/000488)

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The control of vector mosquitoes is an activity for which the socio-economic, health and environmental stakes are high. In France, this mission was entrusted to specialised public operators. These operators need decision-making tools to evaluate efficacy, health and environmental risks pertaining to the current control strategies.

The IMCM-LIFE08 ENV/F/000488 project proposed the development of technical and methodological tools for an integrated mosquito control management. One of the five tasks of this project (Task #4) was dedicated to geomatic engineering. A methodology and tool for mapping retrospective and predictive entomological risk tied to *Aedes albopictus* were developed and tested in 3 towns of the south of France. This tool uses a temporal model of dynamics of *Ae. albopictus* populations (Step 1) asynchronously coupled to a GIS extension to spatialize the temporal dynamics (Step 2).

Step 1 Temporal modelization of dynamics of *Ae. albopictus* populations

The model is derived from the deterministic model developed by Caillly et al. (2007)¹. Based on a system of ordinary differential equations, it has been adapted to the biological characteristics of *Ae. albopictus* in France for the Mediterranean biogeographical region (Tran et al. 2013)².

Nearly twenty parameters were determined from laboratory and field data obtained mainly on local populations.

Data source

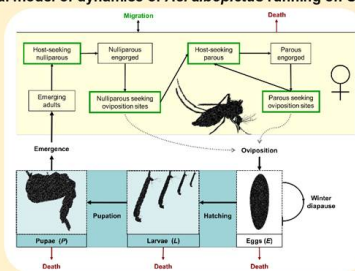
Meteorological data :
temperature &
precipitation (daily
mean values)

Laboratory data

Field data

Parameter	Definition	Value
B1	Number of eggs laid by ovipositing nulliparous females (per female)	95
B2	Number of eggs laid by ovipositing parous females (per female)	75
AL	Standard environment carrying capacity for larvae (larvae ha-1)	250,000
AP	Standard environment carrying capacity for pupae (pupae ha-1)	250,000
e	Sex-ratio at the emergence	0.5
μE	Egg mortality rate (day-1)	0.05
μL	Minimum larva mortality rate (day-1)	0.08
μP	Minimum pupa mortality rate (day-1)	0.03
μem	Mortality rate during adult emergence (day-1)	0.1
μA	Minimum adult mortality rate (day-1)	0.02
μF	Adult mortality rate related to seeking behavior (day-1)	0.08
TE	Minimal temperature needed for egg development (°C)	10.4
TODE	Total number of degree-days necessary for egg development (°C)	150
vhem	Development rate of emerging adults (day-1)	0.4
vAh	Transition rate from host-seeking to engorged adults (day-1)	0.2
vAg	Transition rate from oviposition site-seeking to host-seeking adults (day-1)	0.2
TAg	Minimal temperature needed for egg maturation (°C)	10
TDOAg	Total number of degree-days necessary for egg maturation (°C)	77
tsstart	Start of the favorable season	30 Mar
tsend	End of the favorable season	30 Sept

Temporal model of dynamics of *Ae. albopictus* running on Scilab



Model output's

- E Eggs
- L Larvae
- P Pupae
- Aem Emerging adults
- A1h Host-seeking nulliparous
- A1g Nulliparous engorged
- A1o Nulliparous seeking oviposition sites
- A2h Host seeking parous
- A2g Parous engorged
- A2o Parous seeking oviposition sites

Step 2 Spatialization of *Ae. albopictus* population's temporal dynamics

Two criteria (vegetation and land use) are used for spatialized temporal dynamics of *Ae. albopictus*. They are determined on the basis of field expertise in urban surveillance set up by EID Méditerranée in Nice since 2008. Indeed the presence of vegetation and type of land use will affect the number of potential breeding sites : discontinuous urban fabric medium density with gardens or green spaces will be more favorable to the development of the tiger mosquito than dense continuous urban fabric without green spaces.

Data source

RapidEye image
IRC orthophotography

GMES Urban atlas
land use data

Output model A2h

Census data of the
human population

Touriscat
data

GMES Urban atlas
land use data

Geomatics treatments / data standardization

Use of remote sensing to extract vegetation frame layer.
Object-oriented classification (segmentation and neural network) to determine 4 classes (not vegetated, herb layer, shrub layer and tree layer).

Assigning a coefficient favorability *Ae. albopictus*
presence of each class of land ranging from 1 to 5.

Formatting the output A2h (Host seeking parous).

Monthly spatial distribution of human population numbers
of resident and non-resident. Assigning a factor presence
for morning and evening for each populations categories.

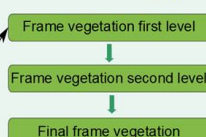
Frame vegetation
layer

Urban favorability
layer

Ah2 data

Vulnerability layer

GIS plug-in QGIS



Geomatics treatments are applied to the vegetation
layer frame to create a layer operable to generate the
hazard map :

- * Fusion vegetated selected class
- * Function expansion erosion set to the activity field of
Ae. albopictus
- * Selection of vegetated surfaces representative

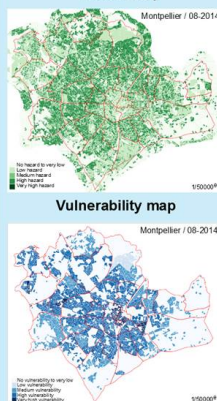
Selecting a period (day, week, month ...).
Crossing between the layers frame final
vegetation and urban favorability, modulation
by seasonal coefficient determined by the
model data for the selected period.

Crossing hazard map
and vulnerability map

Selecting a period (month)

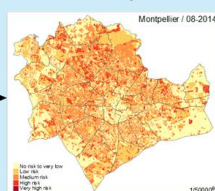
Results and Operational use

Hazard map



The hazard map represents the cartography of the probability of *Ae. albopictus*' presence. The tool can thus simulate the evolution of its abundance during the season and to some extent predict it.

Risk map



The intersection of these two maps enables us to define the
contact areas between the vector (*Ae. albopictus*) and the host
(humans), to qualify them in terms of **entomological risk** and to
follow their evolution through time.

All Q-GIS plug-in outputs are mapped on large scale (1/10000e)
and can be currently used for the towns of Montpellier, Nice and
Porto-Vecchio such as decision-making tool to prioritize and
optimize :

- * vector control actions
- * communication and prevention activities for the local authorities

The census data of the human population and tourist offices allows us to represent spatially the
population density (vulnerability map). This density is modulated according to the peaks of aggression by
Ae. albopictus in the day (morning and evening)

References :

¹Caillly et al.. A climate-driven abundance model to assess mosquito control strategies. Ecol Model 2012, 227, 7-17.

²Tran et al.. A Rainfall- and Temperature-Driven Abundance Model for Aedes albopictus Populations. Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health 2013, 10, 1698-1719.

Prospects

Improving the definition of vulnerability.

Census data have the disadvantage of not reflecting the
actual zone during peak attendance of aggression. It would
be interesting to use geolocation data from GSM to better
target at-risk geographic areas.

Extending the use to other towns in the Mediterranean
biogeographical region.
The extension depends on the availability of land and satellite
image data.

Adapting the model of population dynamics in other
biogeographic zones.
Indeed currently the model is considered robust for the
Mediterranean area (validation data ovitraps network
monitoring Nice) but it would suit the continental and Atlantic
biogeographical zones.

Synchronizing the temporal model to its spatial component to
reduce processing time and minimize handling of data.