

#### 吸血蠓的生態和特徵

吸血蠓體型細小,全身深色,是 屬於蠓科的飛蟲。不論在鄉郊或 市區,吸血蠓都對人類構成滋

> 擾。只有雌性吸血蠓叮人, 但牠們很少在室內叮人。 由於牠們的口器短小, 無法刺穿衣服叮人,

因此身體外露部分往往較易受襲。 在本港,叮咬人類的吸血蠓包括有 環斑庫蠓和台灣蠛蠓。

吸血蠓會在密林間或偶爾在有遮陰的地方歇息。牠們作"之"字形飛行,通常不會飛越離滋生地100米的範圍,惟有可能被風吹而擴散。然而,若風速每小時超過5.6公里及溫度低於攝氏10度,便會蠓的飛行。事實上,吸血蠓的飛行。事實上,吸血蠓的共命很脆弱,乾涼的天氣會縮短其中的人類。

### 吸血蠓的危害

吸血蠓叮所引致的發炎和不適可 持續數天至數星期。抓搔使瘙癢 惡化,更可導致細菌感染及延緩傷 處癒合。不過,吸血蠓不算是傳播 疾病給人類的重要病媒。

#### 吸血蠓的防治

由於吸血蠓的滋生地範圍廣泛, 而且並不明顯及難以識別,所以很 難才能完全消滅其幼蟲。以下方法 可減少吸血蠓的滋生:

- 利用犂田或排水方法減少泥土 表面水分。
- 清除斜坡或花圃上的垃圾、 落葉和其他枯萎植物,以及 沙隔/排水明渠內的堵塞物 (例如淤泥)。
- 定期修剪生長茂密的植物,令 泥土表面多些暴露於陽光和 空氣中。
- 如有需要,可施放殺蟲劑。

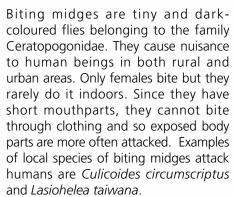
短暫防治方面,可以在吸血蠓的 歇息地方直接噴灑即殺性殺蟲 噴霧,以便控制吸血蠓的成蟲。

此外,可在適當地點設置捕蟲器, 防止該等地點受到吸血蠓的侵襲, 從而減低吸血蠓帶來的滋擾。

如有需要,可聘請滅蟲公司提供 滅蟲服務。

個人保護措施方面,市民可安裝紗網(網眼小於0.75毫米)、穿長袖衫、長褲及按驅蟲劑標籤的指示使用驅蟲劑驅避吸血蠓。

#### Biology and Characteristics of Biting Midges



Biting midges rest in dense vegetation and sometimes shady places. They fly in zigzag patterns and usually no more than 100 meters from their breeding grounds; however, dispersal by wind is possible. Nevertheless, wind over 5.6 kilometers/hour and temperatures below 10°C inhibit flying. In fact, they are so fragile that cool and dry weather will shorten their life. Larvae are aquatic or semi-aquatic, and are usually found in damp places or in mud.

## Hazards Caused by Biting Midges

Irritation and discomfort caused by their bites can last for days, or even weeks. Scratching aggravates the pruritus and may lead to bacterial infection and slow-healing sores. However, biting midges are not considered important vectors of human diseases.

# **Control and Prevention** of Biting Midges

Breeding places for biting midges can be extensive, unobvious and indiscernible. Complete disinfestation of larvae is difficult. Reduction of breeding could be achieved by:

- keeping the moisture content of soil surface low by techniques like plough or draining.
- removing refuse, fallen leaves and other decaying vegetation on slopes or on the flower beds as well as choking matters (e.g. muddy soil) in sand-traps/surface drainage channels.
- trimming, on a regular basis, densely grown vegetation to increase the exposure of soil surface to sunlight and air.
- applying insecticide if necessary.

For temporary control, adult midges can be controlled by fogging of knockdown insecticide directly to their resting places.

The nuisance caused by the insect could be reduced by installation of insect traps at appropriate sites to protect the venues from invasion by the insect.

Pest control company could be appointed to provide insect control services if necessary.

Personal protection measures against biting midges include installation of screens (mesh size <0.75 mm), wearing long-sleeved clothing and applying insect repellents according to label instructions.