



# FKMCD-Oxitec Public Educational Webinar #13

The FKMCD-Oxitec Mosquito Project At Launch

28 April 2021



OXITEC

# Introductions – Panelists With You Today



OXITEC



**Andrea Leal**  
Executive Director  
FKMCD



**Rajeev Vaidyanathan**  
Director of U.S. Operations  
Oxitec



**Kevin Gorman**  
Head of Field Operations  
Oxitec



**Nathan Rose**  
Head of Regulatory Affairs  
Oxitec



FKMCD and Oxitec are hosting a series of public educational webinars to share information with residents of the Florida Keys and provide forums to answer questions.

- Webinars are open to everyone.
- Webinars are recorded and made available for everyone after the event.
- All questions relating to the webinar topic(s) will be answered (some in batches if questions are similar).
- If time runs out, we will accept questions in writing via [florida@oxitec.com](mailto:florida@oxitec.com).
- Questions and answers will be published in writing after the event with external or related online resources/references.

**Upcoming: Our webinar series continues in May!**

## Welcome to Webinar #13!

### Today's Agenda:

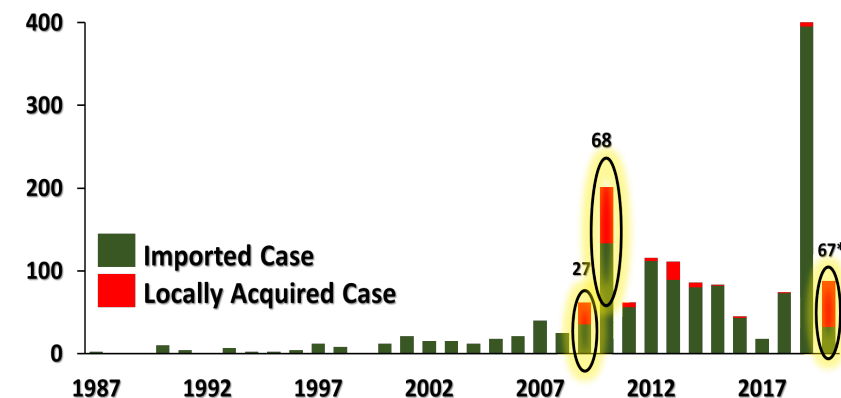
- Project deliverables
- How the success of the project will be measured
- What to expect now and through the summer
- Your Questions Answered

Documentation, resources, references, and other information are available at [keysmosquitoproject.com](https://keysmosquitoproject.com)

# Why now, Why the Florida Keys? – Health and the Environment

- Dengue is an ongoing challenge with over 65 confirmed locally-acquired cases in Monroe County in 2020
- The threat of other diseases such as Zika, chikungunya and yellow fever persists
- Insecticide resistance in local mosquitoes
- Need more tools in our toolbox

## Dengue Cases in Florida Since 1987



\*As of 10/27/2020



- Environmental impact is a major consideration, including for human health
- Using species-specific tools minimizes harmful impacts
- Nine national and state agencies concluded Oxitec male mosquitoes pose no risk to human or environmental health



Photo: Jaret Daniels

Endangered Schaus' swallowtail butterfly lives near the recent dengue outbreak

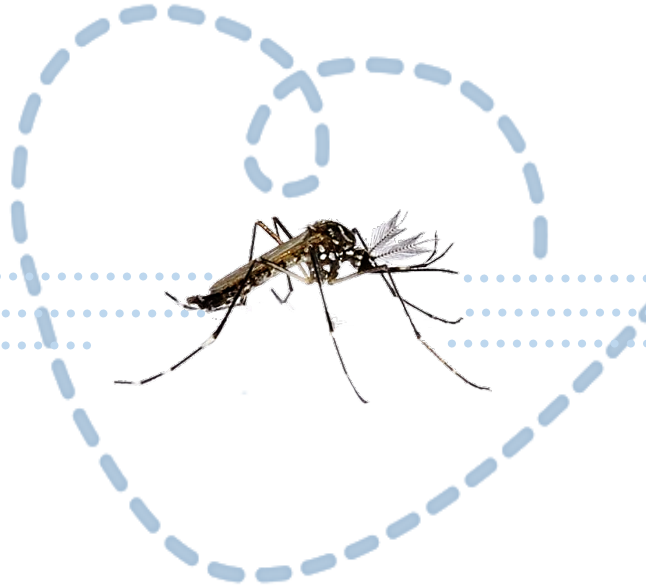
# Oxitec's Aedes aegypti Mosquito Technology ("OX5034")

## OXITEC'S *Aedes Aegypti*

✓ TARGETED  
SUPPRESSION

✓ SAFE, NON-  
TOXIC, NON-  
ALLERGENIC

✓ PROVEN  
EFFECTIVENESS



MALE-ONLY  
RELEASES  
(male mosquitoes  
do not bite) ✓

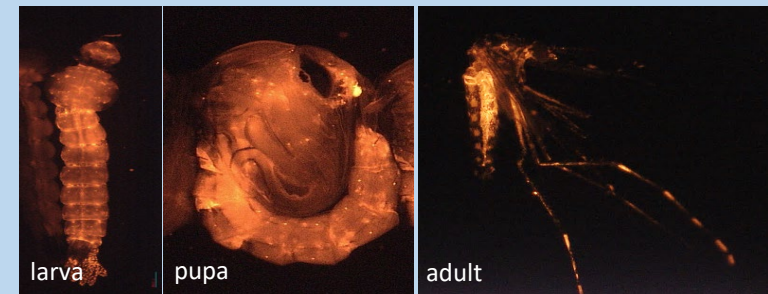
TRACEABLE IN  
THE FIELD ✓

SELF-LIMITING IN  
THE ENVIRONMENT ✓

- No females produced
- Low-tech, egg-based devices



- Easy track-and-trace in the field
- Non-toxic, non-allergenic



1

## Regulatory Pilots

Small | high statistical power | protocol approved by regulators | biology/efficacy measured

2

## Demonstration Pilots

Larger pilot to demonstrate area-wide performance | designed w/ regulator | compared with control

3

## Operational Deployment

Deployed as vector control tool to suppress vector population over an area



## OX5034 performs like a larvicide.

It only kills female larvae of the next generation.

METRIC	DESCRIPTION	USEFUL FOR
<b>Abundance</b>	The number of wild <i>Ae. aegypti</i> in a trap	Checking baseline population levels and changes
<b>Overflooding ratio</b>	The ratio of Oxitec males to wild males	Achieving optimal dose rate
<b>Mating fraction</b>	The proportion of females mated by Oxitec	Evaluating the proportion of the population treated
<b>Efficacy</b>	The percentage of treated females that die	Confirming 100% effective against treated females



## 1 Egg Collection Ovitrap



Small plastic cups

Monitors the numbers of eggs laid by *Ae. aegypti* females

## 2 Adult Mosquito Collection



Captures adults

Monitors ratios and numbers of *Ae. aegypti* adults

## 3 Lab-based Monitoring/QC



Stereo microscopes

Used to track performance and confirm quality

## Purpose

1. Broaden the toolbox to protect communities against invasive species and diseases
2. Preserve both the quality of life for residents and the delicate Florida Keys ecosystem
3. Evaluate this safe, innovative tool for fighting *Aedes aegypti*

## Project Components

1. Community Engagement
2. Project A: Single-point Releases
3. Mark-Release-Recapture
4. Project B: Area-wide Releases

**Project: Evaluate Oxitec's *Aedes aegypti* Just Add Water Technology**



## PROJECT A

### SINGLE POINT RELEASE



Regular device placements in 6 small areas  
~12 weeks  
~12,000 mosquitoes per week across all areas

## LOCATIONS

Project A: RAMROD KEY, CUDJOE KEY (x2), VACA KEY (x3)

TRAP TO COLLECT MOSQUITO EGGS



TRAP TO COLLECT MOSQUITO ADULTS



## PROJECT B

### MULTIPLE RELEASE POINTS



Small number of devices placed per week  
in up to 6 areas  
~16 weeks

# Project A: What's Happening This Week?

- Mosquito Boxes placed in yards
- Male OX5034 mosquitoes will start to emerge ~14 days after placement
- After 28 days, the Box is replaced with a new one
- Adult and egg traps around release sites

## Evaluation Elements

- Duration of effect (residual activity)
- Male flight range and longevity
- % kill of female mosquitoes
- % of the wild population treated
- 6 Release Sites and 3 Control Sites



- Project A will last for approximately 12 weeks
- Project B will place multiple boxes in small neighborhood release areas
- After releases end, areas will be monitored until no OX5034 mosquitoes remain
- Following the end of mosquito releases, full data analysis will be completed and shared with regulators



**Working together, FKMCD and Oxitec will continue engaging, listening and sharing with communities in the Florida Keys.**



## Community Approach:

- Full coordination between FKMCD and Oxitec
- Transparency and robust information sharing
- Listening and learning from communities and stakeholders
- Inclusive engagement programs specific to community members and groups
- Broad view of stakeholders – citizens, communities, businesses, experts
- Multiple avenues for anyone to contact and engage



# Recent Community Engagement



FKMCD - #Oxitec Public Educational Webinar #12

30 views • 3 weeks ago



FKMCD - #Oxitec Public Educational Webinar #11

72 views • 1 month ago



FKMCD - #Oxitec Public Educational Webinar #10:...

81 views • 2 months ago



FKMCD - #Oxitec Public Educational Webinar #9:...

109 views • 4 months ago



FKMCD - #Oxitec Public Educational Webinar #8:...

128 views • 5 months ago



Virtual Tour: Inside #Oxitec Labs Worldwide

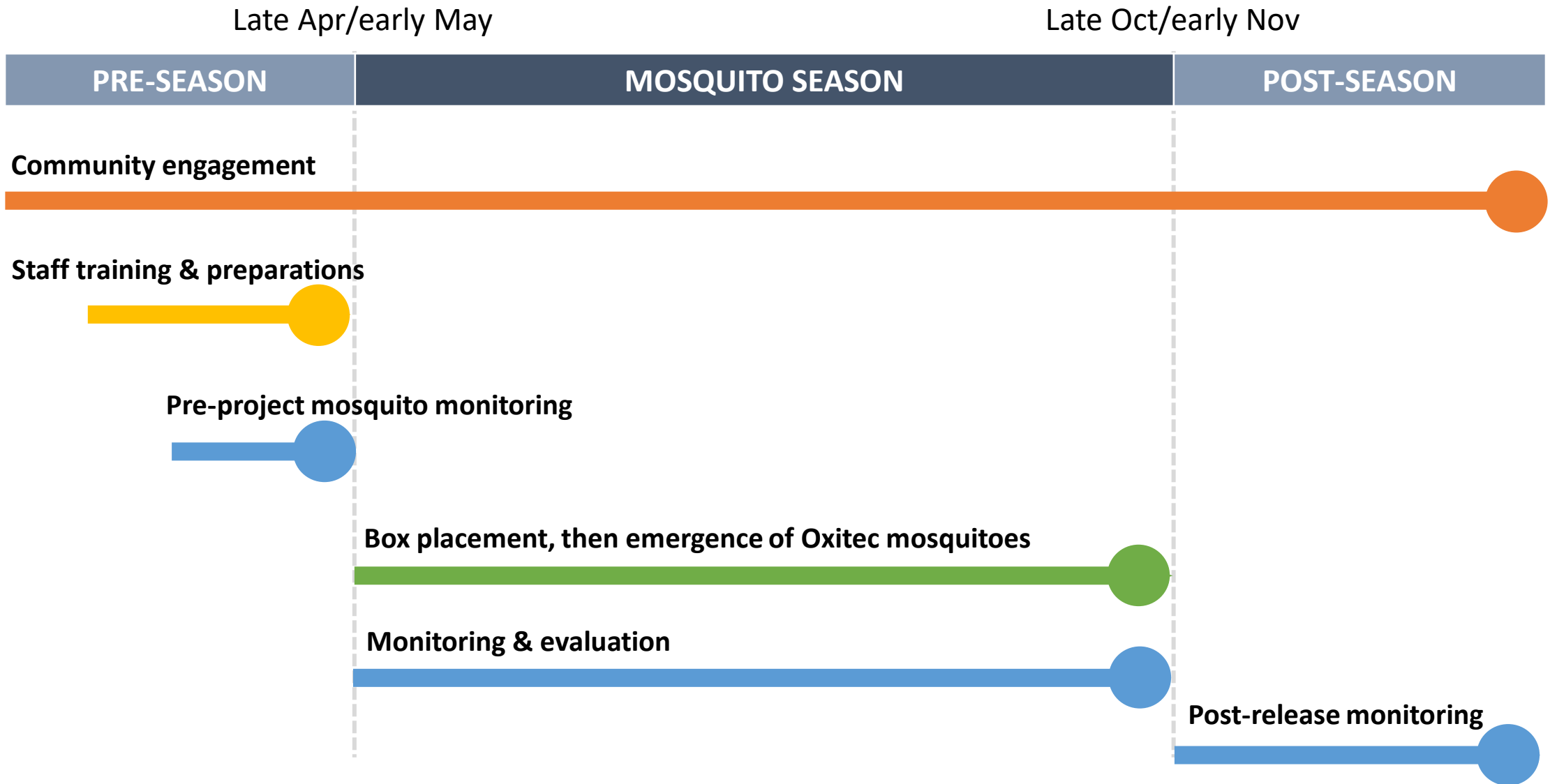
689 views • 5 months ago



**PLEASE TURN OVER TO LEARN MORE!** →



# Florida Keys Pilot Project Timeline - 2021







## JOIN THE PROJECT!

## SPEAKERS BUREAU

\*What is your name?

How would you like to be involved?\*

Please send me updates

I would like to host a box

I would like to host a trap

I would like to volunteer

\*Email address

- ✓ Request a box
- ✓ Request a trap
- ✓ Sign up for updates
- ✓ Volunteer as a Project Ambassador



Any and all questions on this evening's topics are welcome!

*(If we run out of time tonight, email [florida@oxitec.com](mailto:florida@oxitec.com) and we will attempt to answer your question if it isn't included in the growing FAQ or post-event summary we publish online at [oxitec.com/florida](http://oxitec.com/florida) and [keysmosquitoproject.com](http://keysmosquitoproject.com))*