

EXPANSION OF ENTOMOLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE OF *Aedes* sp. USING OVITRAPS IN THE STATE OF MINAS GERAIS

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The entomological surveillance of urban arboviruses has been conducted for years through the Rapid Index Survey for *Aedes aegypti* (LIRAA/LIA in portuguese). To complement this methodology, the Ministry of Health of Brazil recommended the use of ovitraps throughout the national territory. The ovitrap consist of a black container filled with water and equipped with a wooden paddle inside. Simulating a breeding site for *Aedes aegypti*, eggs laid on the paddle can be counted and used to generate entomological indicators. These indicators are useful to evaluate pre- and post-control interventions, as well as to assess the implementation of new vector control technologies. Therefore, the State Health Department of Minas Gerais (SES/MG) monitored the implementation of ovitraps in 14 municipalities over an 18-month period. In light of this observation, a methodology was developed for the effective implementation of ovitraps across all 853 municipalities. It involves the active engagement of municipal health managers, comprehensive theoretical and practical training on ovitraps, the provision of a detailed manual for operational teams, and the implementation of a systematic methodology for continuous monitoring of these municipalities. Additionally, criteria were established to indicate a higher likelihood of the permanent implementation of ovitraps, as well as indicators for evaluating the execution of this policy. A strategy has been formulated to decentralize the methodology, enabling its replication across all 28 regional health units of the state of Minas Gerais.

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