How we monitor *Wolbachia* carrying mosquitoes on Tri Nguyen Island

**Monitoring for Wolbachia**

At the beginning of the year, so that we could see how many mosquitoes there are on the island, we set a number of mosquito traps in homes (pictured). We collected samples from these traps every week. We always found more mosquitoes two weeks after heavy rainfall; this is because the rain has hatched new eggs that have been laid by adult mosquitoes in containers around the home. Once we began releasing *Wolbachia* mosquitoes we continued to collect the samples from the traps and sent them to the laboratory to see if they had *Wolbachia*.

1. Every Thursday the catching bag (circled in photo) is collected from the trap and taken to IPNT in Nha Trang.

2. A microscope is used to separate *Aedes aegypti* from other mosquitoes caught in the bag. The *Aedes aegypti* are then sent to Hanoi.

3. In the laboratory all the mosquitoes are put through a machine that shows us how many have *Wolbachia*.

**NHA TRANG**

Institut Pasteur

**HANOI**

National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology

**TRI NGUYEN ISLAND**

Sharing the results

We have now completed 23 weeks of releasing *Wolbachia* mosquitoes and we would like to say a big thank you to all local households for your support and involvement in our project’s activities.

Our latest monitoring tells us that on 29 August 80% of *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes had *Wolbachia*. Over the coming months we will continue to collect adult mosquitoes to see if *Wolbachia* stays in the local *Aedes aegypti* population. We hope this will be the case, however there is also the possibility that the number of *Wolbachia* mosquitoes in our traps could decrease. This is because the *Wolbachia* mosquitoes have a shorter life span and they lay fewer eggs than the wild mosquitoes without *Wolbachia*.

As always, we encourage all residents on the island to always protect themselves from being bitten by mosquitoes. If you think you have dengue, please seek medical advice through the local health clinic or the Vinh Nguyen health station.

www.eliminatedengue.com
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We will keep updating you on our project progress through the monitoring phase and will talk to the TNI community about the next steps for our project on the island.

Please contact us if you have any questions.

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