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What (the CDC) is Missing in the 'Zika War'?

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In magic, 'black holes' etc. often the **unseen** holds the key to unfolding a mystery. That is exactly how I felt when browsing through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) site, and more specifically, the part dedicated to preventing a Zika epidemic.

At some point I got to a page titled 'Integrated Mosquito Management' with a promising subtitle "Integrated Mosquito Management for *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes".

I was thinking '*wonderful, this is the best and most up to date site. Let's see how the CDC advice to control mosquitoes and prevent the Zika virus*'. I started by reading the list for "integrated mosquito management (IMM)". The list is basic, easy to read and include 3 main topics:

- Conduct mosquito surveillance (i.e. monitor)
- Remove places where mosquitoes lay eggs (i.e. sanitation)
- Control young and adult mosquitoes (i.e. insecticide spraying)

I wasn't surprised not seeing any remarks regarding repellents, for they are not used for mosquito 'control'. However, in other parts in the site you are advised to use repellents. I also wasn't surprise for not seeing anything, anywhere, about vaccinations.



Messaging



vaccine response too early, you'd still have to seven times more rates of hospitalizations for severe dengue virus than placebo controls" (link: [Contrary dengue vaccine response hints at possible problems with Zika](#)).

However, I was **shocked** when finding out that in a site claiming to deal with **integrated mosquito management**, there is **no** use of any form of attractants. No 'traps', no 'Attract & Kill' and no 'Mating Disruption' "? How can it be?

Now, do you see the 'black hole', do you see what is missing?

The most powerful force (!) that affects mosquito's behavior is **smell**, A fundamental element in any Integrated Pest Management (IPM) campaign. Mosquitoes can spot some smells from tens and even hundreds of meters. So why this force is ignored and not put to work, why this path is so underdeveloped?

When the alternative is ground and/or aerial **spraying**, it becomes clear that using attractants through some form of a trap, attract & kill or mating disruption is the soundest alternative.

Biofeed's Perception of Pest Control

I founded Biofeed because I am sure that spraying is not the **solution**, but the **problem**. The 'black hole' of **not** using smells for pest control, has to be seen, analyzed, and turned into a source of abundance and opportunities. This is what we do.

We focus on overcoming the main obstacles, and turn a Problem into Opportunity.

1. Extending attractiveness **area** - by keeping a **fixed** proportion of each element released.
2. Extending attractiveness **time** - by control the **rate** of release.
3. Overall better **control** by improving 'conversion rate'; i.e., increasing the percent of 'attracted pests' that becomes 'dead pests'.

It is achieved by effectively **adapting** our slow fluid release (SFR) technology, to various changing demands (pest, period, environment, etc.). This is done by way of combining field tested and proven technology, with **known** attractants – resulting a powerful line of products!

Agree / Disagree? **Comment, Like and Share.**

Nimrod Israely, Biofeed Founder and CTO





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Francis C. Bosah, TIPM • 1st
African Director and Technical Manager @ICB Pharma, Poland | African Pest Management Space DISRUPTOR
With new humane engineering, it's quite obvious that the days of depending on volatile pesticides (with all the associated flaws and putative risks) as the silver bullet for pest control are numbered. There has been a paradigm shift in the industry and I want to believe many people are either ignorant of this or still under the spell of the big pesticide companies, who through extensive and endless lobbying are continuing to control the industry. The solution will be the right dosage of can ...see more
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Alfredo Malarin • 2nd
Owner, Agrícola La Corona SAC
Semiochemicals have been around for decades in the market, some of them have been very successful but there are limitations difficult to overcome such as specificity, that makes them hard to develop as commercial products. Another issue is their regulation, more work is needed to make them easier to register or sell free so it can be delivered by mail.
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Totally agree with the issue of regulation, which must be changed, and the sooner the better! As to limitations and difficulties, I tend to think we blame our failures in the limitation of the semiochemicals, while the true fault is ours; we simply fail to develop a proper delivery system that can fully exploit the hidden potential of semiochemicals
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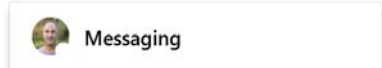
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