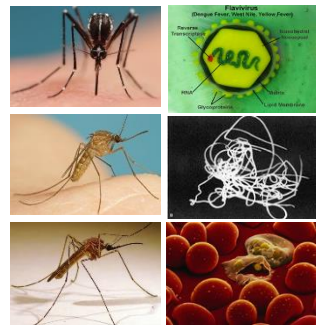


MONITORING OF INVASIVE MOSQUITO SPECIES IN PALERMO (ITALY)

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INTRODUCTION

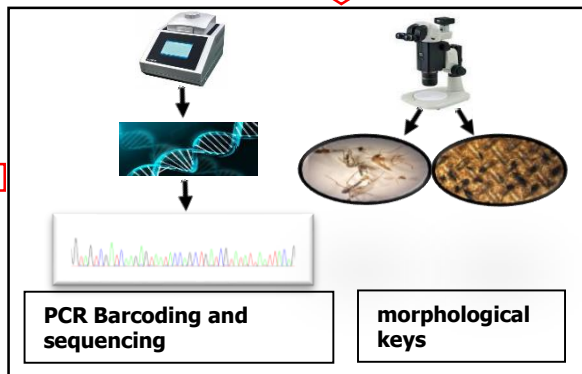


Culicids are vectors of high health relevance being able to transmit several pathogens, including zoonotic agents. Monitoring was carried out to investigate the introduction of mosquito invasive species and assess the risk of indigenous spread of viruses transmitted by these species.

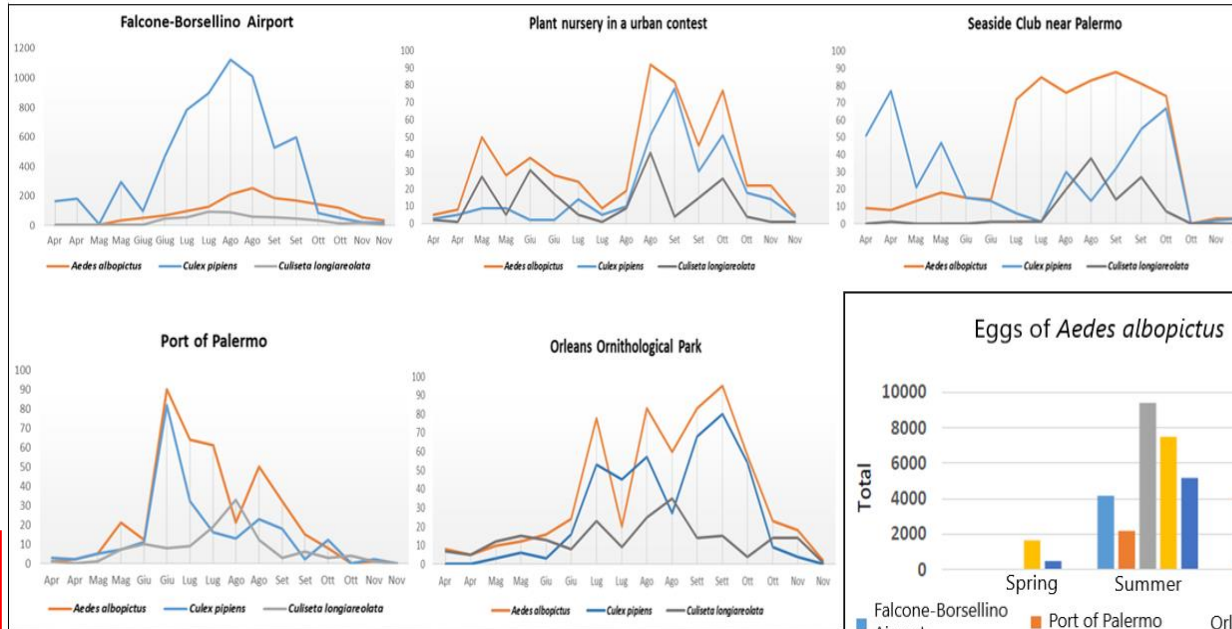


MATERIALS AND METHODS

Entomological catches in: Port of Palermo (1), Falcone-Borsellino Airport (2), Orleans Ornithological Park (3), a plant nursery in an urban context (4) and a Seaside Club near Palermo (5). The catches were made with BG-sentinel traps (1), Universal Trap (2) and ovitraps (3).



RESULTS



A total of 201 adult and 740 egg catches were collected. From the molecular analysis and morphological identification three types of mosquitoes were identified in the five monitored sites.

From left: representing *Aedes albopictus*, *Culex pipiens*, *Culiseta longiareolata*. *Ae. Albopictus* the only detected invasive species.

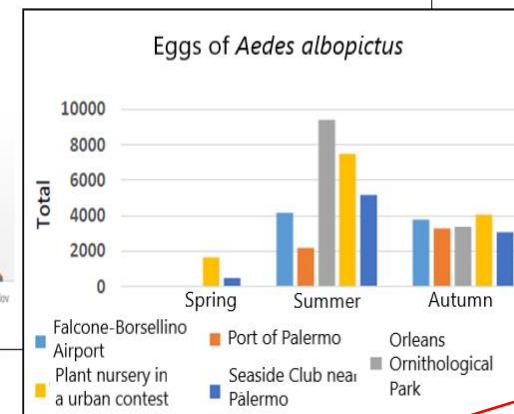


CONCLUSION



increased risk for autochthonous spread of new pathogen during the summer season due to Possible introduction of new viruses; High exposure.

CAUSED BY:



The high vector density also in the Orleans and plant nursery sites also suggests expanding the monitoring network in sites where conditions are particularly favourable for vector colonization.