



Beware of Dengue Fever

Prevention of Dengue Fever

Advice to Grave Sweepers



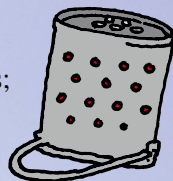
Introduction

Mosquitoes not only cause nuisance but also transmit diseases to human beings. The *Aedes albopictus*, in particular, poses threats to human health as a vector of dengue fever. Dengue fever is a severe mosquito-borne disease characterised by high fever, severe headache, muscle and joint pain, pain behind the eyes and rash. *Aedes albopictus* is a day biter and breeds in receptacles like lunch boxes, cans, vases, etc. The most effective method to prevent dengue fever is to eliminate any potential breeding places of *Aedes albopictus*.

Anti-mosquito measures

Members of the public can take the following measures to prevent mosquito breeding when they go to cemeteries during the Ching Ming and Chung Yeung Festivals:

- 1) Fill up incense candleholders/trough with sand;
- 2) Make a small hole at the bottom of vases to avoid water accumulation;
- 3) Make holes at the bottom of containers for burning sacrificial items;
- 4) Top up defective ground surfaces to avoid accumulation of water;
- 5) Fill up bamboo stumps with sand or soil;
- 6) Cover and securely tie up vases with plastic sheets; and
- 7) Dispose of used sacrificial items, containers, bottles, cans, lunch boxes and rubbish in refuse bins.



Personal protection

The following personal protection measures should be taken when going to cemeteries:

- 1) Wear light-coloured long-sleeved clothes and long trousers;
- 2) Avoid staying in shrubby areas;
- 3) Avoid applying odour-producing cosmetics such as perfume and body lotion; and
- 4) Apply mosquito repellent on the clothes or skin according to label instructions.

