

Use of Mosquito Trapping Device

Mosquito Trapping Device (MTD) should be used as one of the supplementary measures in controlling mosquitoes. For other measures, please refer to the advisory leaflets on mosquito prevention and control prepared by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (e.g. “Prevention of Dengue Fever”, “Advice on Prevention and Control of Japanese Encephalitis Vector”, “Prevention of Mosquito Breeding in Disused Land” and “Anti-mosquito Weekly Inspection Programme”). MTDs may reduce the chances of mosquito biting, but not an absolute protection. To control mosquitoes effectively by using MTDs, the following points have to be noted:

Selection of MTD

- A MTD should be equipped with one or more of the followings as a mosquito attractant:
 1. Light including ultraviolet light
 2. Carbon dioxide (not suitable for indoor)
 3. Octenol (not suitable for indoor)
 4. Heat
- A MTD should be designed with a sucking function for capturing mosquitoes flying near to the device.
- A MTD should be equipped with a catch pan or trapping chamber that can be cleaned for collecting the mosquitoes captured or killed.

Positioning of MTD

Indoors

- Set MTDs near the most critical mosquito invading points, e.g. entrances and windows.
- Set MTDs indoors where the devices could not be seen from outside.
- Set sufficient number of MTDs according to suppliers’ recommendations to ensure the effectiveness of the devices within the areas covered.
- Locate MTDs evenly throughout the premises.
- Install MTDs at about 1 to 2 meters above the floor.
- Do not use MTDs in explosion sensitive areas.
- Keep MTDs with electrocuting function at least 1.5 meters (preferably 4.5 to 6 meters) away from exposed stuff such as foods.
- Avoid using MTDs with carbon dioxide, octenol or other chemicals as attractants.

Outdoors

- Set MTDs as far away from your premises as possible.
- Set sufficient number of MTDs according to the suppliers' advice to ensure effectiveness.
- Locate MTDs evenly throughout the areas.
- Install MTDs at about 1 to 2 meters above the floor.
- Locate MTDs at places where the mosquito attractant can be detected by mosquitoes from all directions.
- Do not use MTDs in explosion sensitive areas.
- Do not place MTDs under direct sunlight or near to sodium vapour lights/mercury vapour lamps as they may have UV emission.
- Keep MTDs with electrocuting functions at least 1.5 meters (preferably 4.5 to 6 meters) away from exposed stuff such as foods.

Maintenance of MTDs

- Dead insects in catch pans or trapping chambers must be cleaned weekly, preferably twice a week.
- Light sources and electrifying grids of MTDs with electrocuting functions should be cleaned once a month.
- Change the lamps once a year, preferably prior to the rainy season.
- Examine the gas supply systems and the tubing/pipes equipped in the MTDs regularly or as advised by the suppliers.
- Ensure the suction functions of MTDs are in order by examining the relevant parts regularly or as advised by the suppliers.
- To ensure the maximum efficiency of MTDs, follow the manufacturers' instructions carefully.