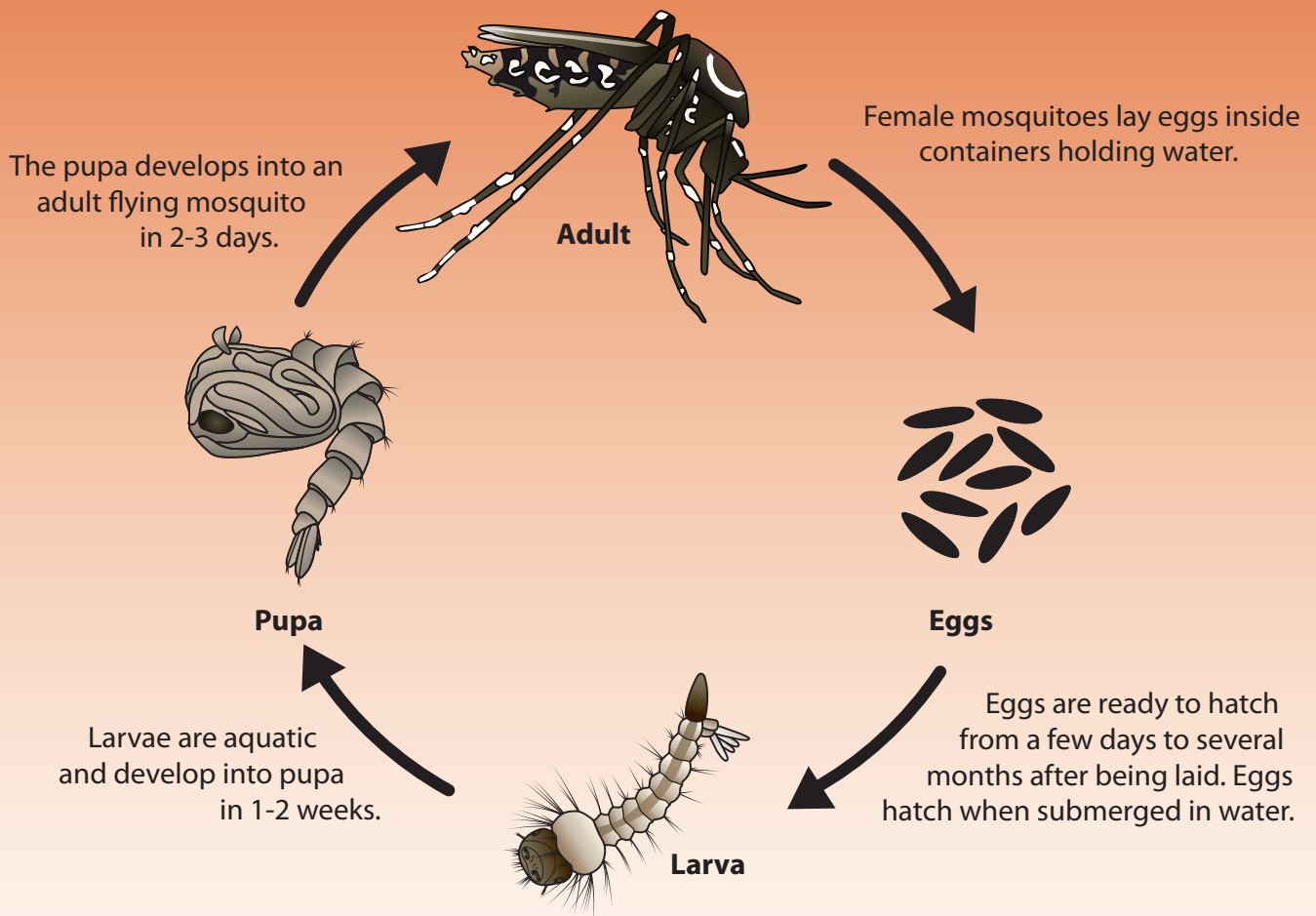


Mosquito life cycle

Aedes aegypti



The *Aedes* mosquitoes have 4 life stages: egg, larva, pupa and adult. Mosquitoes can live and reproduce inside and outside the home. The entire life cycle, from an egg to an adult, takes approximately 8-10 days.

Life Stages of *Aedes* Mosquitoes

Eggs

- Adult, female mosquitoes lay their eggs on the inner, wet walls of containers with water, above the waterline.
- Mosquitoes generally lay 100 eggs at a time.
- Eggs are very hardy; they stick to the walls of a container like glue and can survive drying out for up to 8 months—even over the winter.
- It only takes a very small amount of water to attract a female mosquito. Bowls, cups, fountains, tires, barrels, vases and any other container storing water makes for a great “nursery.”

Larva

- Larvae hatch from mosquito eggs, but only after the water level rises to cover the eggs. This means that floodwater, rainwater or humans adding water to containers with eggs will trigger the larvae to hatch.
- Larvae feed on microorganisms in the water. After molting three times, metamorphosis is triggered and the larva becomes a pupa.

Pupa

- Pupae will develop until the body of the newly formed adult flying mosquito emerges from the pupal skin and leaves the water.

Adult

- Once adult mosquitoes emerge, they take their first meal.
- Male mosquitoes feed on nectar from flowers.
- Female mosquitoes feed on humans and animals for food and to produce eggs.
- After feeding, female mosquitoes will look for water sources to lay more eggs.
- Mosquitoes can fly 1 to 1.5 miles per hour.

For more information on mosquitoes and dengue, visit: www.cdc.gov/dengue



Eggs look like black dirt.



Larvae in the water.



Pupa in the water.



Emerging adult mosquito.



Female mosquito after biting a person.