

SOP for Transportation of Mosquitoes

Experimental hut trials

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Purpose: Means by which samples of live mosquitoes are to be transported to and from experimental hut or other field testing sites.

Appendix: FORM AVECNET EH 002.01

Definitions

PI Principal investigator
SOP Standard operating procedure

Scope

This document is applicable to all staff whose duties include preparation and transportation of live mosquitoes either from or to field trials sites, e.g. for use in cone bioassays in experimental huts.



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Responsibilities

1. It is the responsibility of the individuals preparing live mosquitoes for transportation and those transporting mosquitoes to follow this SOP AVECNET EH 002.01.
2. It is the responsibility of the PI to ensure that the correct version of this SOP is in place at the study site and correct training has been given to all personnel that use this SOP.
3. It is the responsibility of all scientific staff to ensure that this SOP is correctly followed.

Instructions

1. Equipment

- 1.1. Cool box (i.e. cooler, an insulated box typically used to keep food or drink cool, often made of insulated plastic or polystyrene) of sufficient size/capacity to hold the required number of cups of mosquitoes.
- 1.2. Rack (wooden or other suitable material, clean and uncontaminated) for holding paper cups with live mosquitoes securely in an upright position
- 1.3. Clean towel
- 1.4. Distilled water
- 1.5. Thermometer/hygrometer (Data logging type preferred)
- 1.6. Data record sheets (FORM AVECNET EH 002.01)

2. Procedure

- 2.1. The cool box must be new or clean and free from any sources of contamination at all times. It is good practice to use a different cooler for transporting untreated mosquitoes to the field than that used for transporting mosquitoes from the field (i.e. post-exposure).
- 2.2. Take the towel and pour sufficient distilled water onto it so as to make it damp (squeeze the towel to ensure excess water has been removed, so water does not drip from the towel).
- 2.3. Prepare the cool box by placing the damp towel on its inside bottom.
- 2.4. Place the rack on top of the damp towel in the cooler.
- 2.5. Introduce the paper cups containing live mosquitoes into the racks in an upright position
- 2.6. Provide mosquitoes with 10% glucose as described in SOP AVECNET EH 002.01.
- 2.7. Place the temperature/humidity meter into the cool box.

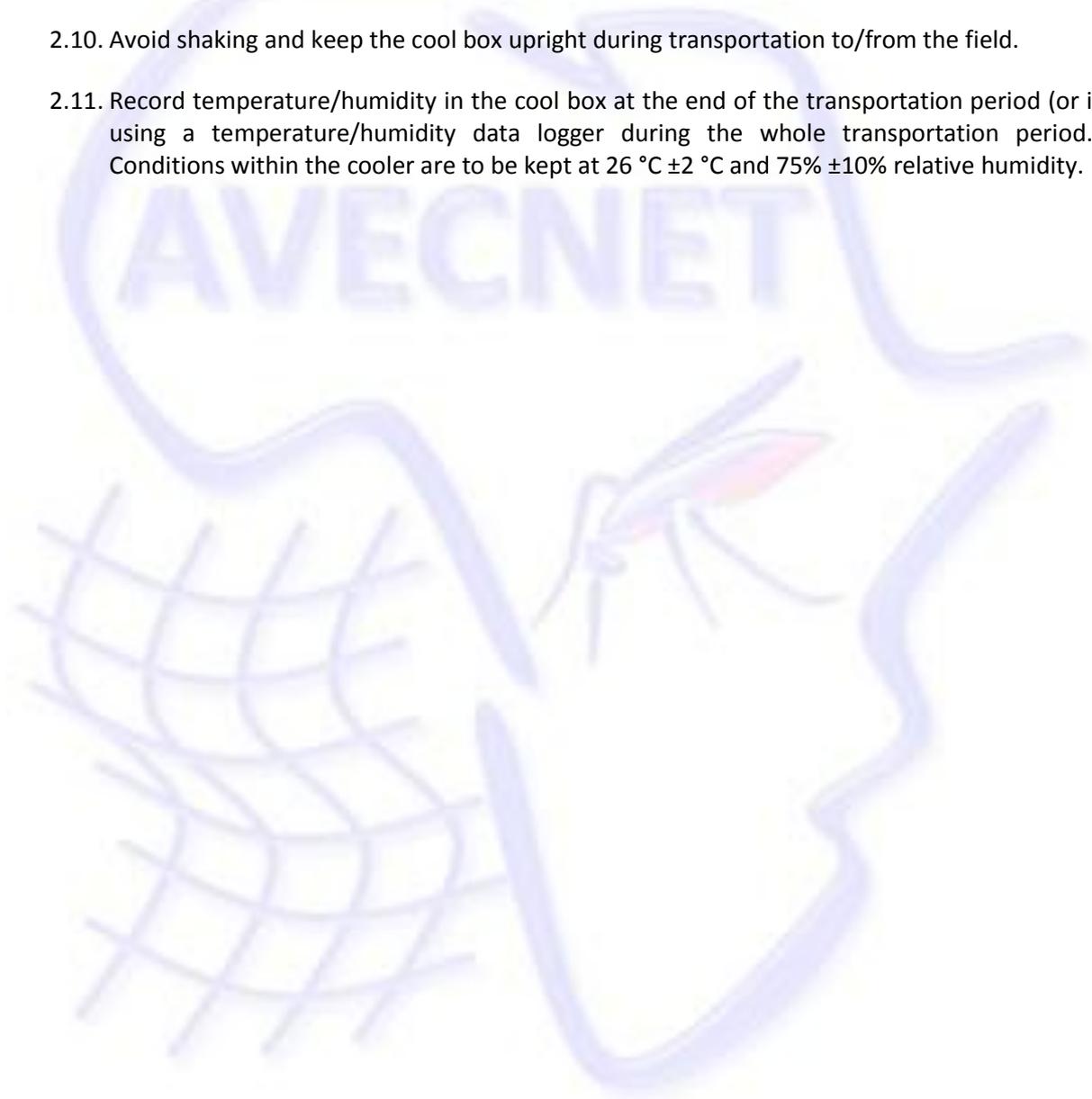
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- 2.8. Once all cups of mosquitoes have been placed into the racks, cover the cool box with its lid (replace the lid of the cool box also if the box is, for example being moved between experimental huts or there is a pause between placing cups of mosquitoes into the cooler).
- 2.9. Once all cups of mosquitoes have been placed in the racks, record the temperature/humidity inside the cooler.
- 2.10. Avoid shaking and keep the cool box upright during transportation to/from the field.
- 2.11. Record temperature/humidity in the cool box at the end of the transportation period (or if using a temperature/humidity data logger during the whole transportation period.) Conditions within the cooler are to be kept at $26\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 2\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ and $75\% \pm 10\%$ relative humidity.



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