

WHAT IS A MOSQUITOFISH?

The *Gambusia affinis* is a small minnow-like fish originally from the Gulf Coast and Atlantic seaboard of the United States and Mexico.

They are called mosquitofish because they eat mosquito larvae. An adult mosquitofish is capable of eating 100 to 500 mosquito larvae per day.

Experiments have shown that when mosquitofish are introduced into a fish-free pond at the height of the mosquito-breeding season, they reduced mosquito larvae by 80% in just one week.

Mosquitofish can survive in standing water that is deep or shallow, muddy or clear, open or overgrown. This, coupled with their preference for mosquito larvae makes them an excellent choice for the biological control of mosquitoes.



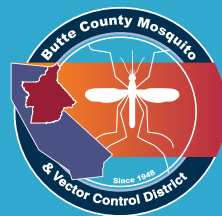
Butte County Mosquito & Vector Control District

Since 1948

The District covers over 1600 square miles, and includes all of Butte County, except the small areas served by the Durham and Oroville Mosquito Abatement Districts, which were formed earlier. The District also includes the Hamilton City area of Glenn County. In April of 1994, "Vector Control" was added to the District name to reflect the additional disease surveillance and information now provided.

OUR MISSION

The mission of BCMVCD is primarily to suppress mosquito-transmitted disease and to also reduce the annoyance levels of mosquitoes and diseases associated with ticks, fleas and other vectors through environmentally compatible control practices and public education.



5117 Larkin Road
Oroville, CA 95965

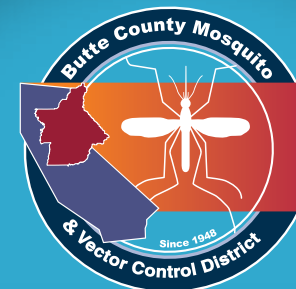
(530) 533-6038

or

(530) 342-7350

www.BCMVCD.com

MOSQUITOFISH



FACTS ABOUT MOSQUITOFISH

Once mosquitofish are introduced into a mosquito-breeding source, they can live up to two years. A female can bear young three to six times per summer. There are 40 to 60 live fry per brood.

If mosquito larvae become depleted, mosquitofish will eat whatever is available, including other aquatic insects, algae, terrestrial insects that fall into the water, as well as fish food.

Mosquitofish may not be compatible with goldfish and/or koi as they tend to nibble on the fins and tails.

Other fish such as bass, bluegill and trout may prey on mosquitofish, reducing their effectiveness as mosquito predators.

Other enemies of mosquitofish include wading birds, frogs, and snakes.

WHERE TO USE MOSQUITOFISH

Mosquitofish can be used in these and other mosquito-breeding sources.



Horse Troughs



Ponds and Fountains



Unmaintained Swimming Pools

MOSQUITOFISH PICKUP LOCATIONS

BCMVCD District Office
5117 Larkin Road
Oroville, CA
Phone: 533-6038

BCMVCD Chico Substation
444 Otterson Drive
Chico, CA
Phone: 342-7350

C Bar D Feeds
3388 Highway 32
Chico, CA
Phone: 342-5361

Goldie's Pet Supply
6424 Skyway
Paradise, CA
Phone: 872-4560

Magnolia Gift & Garden
1367 East Avenue
Chico, CA
Phone: 894-5410

Mendon's Nursery
5424 Foster Road
Paradise, CA
Phone: 877-7341

Paradise Pines True Value Hardware
14086 Skyway
Magalia, CA
Phone: 873-1008

The Pine's Yankee Hill
11300 Miller Flat Road
Concow, CA
Phone: 534-1265

Rosa's Nursery
585 Main Street
Hamilton City, CA
Phone: 826-0559

Skyway Feed and Supply
5990 Foster Road
Paradise, CA
Phone: 877-1019

Wilbur's Feed
139 Meyers Street
Chico, CA
Phone: 895-0569



Mosquito and Vector Control Specialists seigning mosquitofish from a seasonal pond that is drying. The mosquitofish will be replanted in other mosquito-breeding sources.



These tiny fish can daily eat their own weight in mosquito larvae, or pupae, and have been introduced throughout the world to aid in control of mosquitoes, especially where malaria and yellow fever are a threat.