

Hands-on Mosquito-related Educational and Outreach
Materials for Florida Schools
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Final Report:

Materials and supplies for the mosquito/copepod kits were obtained, and the availability of the kits was advertised in several educational web pages. Instruction sheets and feedback forms were also created and included with all the kits. An illustrated CD with instructions and general information on mosquitoes, copepods, and the kits was created and was included with every kit.

A www page giving background on mosquito and copepod life cycles as well as information on the kits and a fill-in electronic form for ordering the kits was created; it can be accessed at: <http://fmel.ifas.ufl.edu/kits/>.

We received over 85 requests for the kits. Because of the twin hurricanes, the shipment of the kits was delayed, so we have not yet received the feedback forms back, but initial comments via e-mail have been very favorable. Several of the teachers that ordered the kits, left them in the shipping box for several weeks before opening them and as a consequence all the copepods were dead. Additional copepods were shipped to those teachers. Although the requesters know that the kits contain live animals that must be attended to, we will emphasize this fact in future shipments.

We will continue to honor kit requests until existing materials are exhausted, and will apply for additional funding when appropriate.

A sample kit is included with this report.