

TEXTO**Zika: Is the U.S. ready for the fight?**

If you're a mosquito and you value your life, stay away from Fort Myers, Florida.

Awaiting your arrival there will be a staff of a dozen entomologists and biologists to study your every move. A fleet of 26 trucks, 11 helicopters and four airplanes stands ready to spray you dead.

There are much safer places in the United States for a mosquito to go -- and that's a big problem, according to experts trying to control the spread of the Zika virus as summer approaches.

In the United States, mosquito control is done by a patchwork of hundreds of separate authorities, many of them in coastal and Western states. Some, like the Lee County Mosquito Control District, where Fort Myers is located, are said to do an excellent job, but there are concerns that others might not be up to the task.

Today, the Senate is considering three competing proposals to fund the fight against Zika. Mosquito control experts hope the money would help shore up weaknesses in the nation's pesticide defenses.

The big fear is that a mosquito carrying Zika could bite a pregnant woman, and her baby could develop a devastating birth defect.

"If I were a pregnant woman living on the Gulf Coast or in Florida, in an impoverished neighborhood in a city like Houston; New Orleans; Miami; Biloxi, Mississippi; or Mobile, Alabama, I would be nervous right now," Dr. Peter Hotez, dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine at the Baylor College of Medicine, wrote in a recent opinion piece in The New York Times.

Fonte: CNN

TEXTO – TRADUÇÃO LIVRE**Zika: Is the U.S. ready for the fight?**

Zika: Estão os Estados Unidos pronto para a luta?

If you're a mosquito and you value your life, stay away from Fort Myers, Florida.

Se você é um mosquito e valoriza sua vida, fique longe de Fort Myers, Flórida.

Awaiting your arrival there will be a staff of a dozen entomologists and biologists to study your every move. A fleet of 26 trucks, 11 helicopters and four airplanes stands ready to spray you dead.

Aguardando sua chegada estará uma equipe de doze entomologistas e biólogos para estudar cada movimento seu. Uma frota de 26 caminhões, 11 helicópteros e quatro aviões permanece pronta para matá-lo.

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Há muitos lugares seguros nos Estados Unidos para um mosquito ir – e isso é um grande problema, de acordo com especialistas tentando controlar a propagação do vírus Zika enquanto o verão se aproxima.

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Nos Estados Unidos, o controle do mosquito é feito por uma colcha de retalhos de centenas de autoridades separadas, muitas delas nos estados costeiros e ocidentais. Algumas, como Lee County Mosquito Control District, onde Fort Myers está localizado, estão dizendo que fazem um excelente trabalho, mas há preocupações que outras podem não estar a altura da tarefa.

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Hoje, o Senado está considerando três propostas concorrentes para financiar a luta contra o Zika. Especialistas no controle do mosquito esperam que o dinheiro possa ajudar a assegurar fraquezas nas defesas de pesticidas da nação.

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O grande temor é que um mosquito carregando o Zika poderia picar um mulher grávida, e seu bebê poderia desenvolver um defeito de nascença devastador.