

# 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.

*\*\*Mosquitofish are not to be planted in creeks, streams, or rivers.*



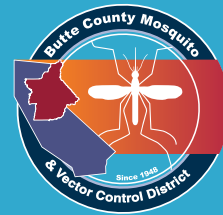
## Butte County Mosquito & Vector Control District

*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

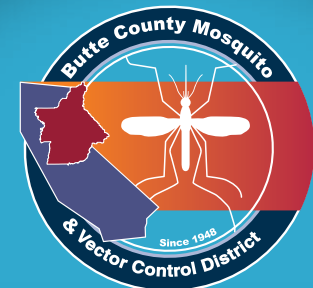
(530) 533-6038

or

(530) 342-7350

[www.BCMVCD.com](http://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

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

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

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

**Foothill Mill and Lumber**  
1698 Wagstaff Road  
Paradise, CA  
Phone: 877-3395

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

**Harshbarger**  
**Ace Hardware**  
1626 State Hwy 99  
Gridley, CA  
Phone: 846-3625

**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 seining 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.*