

# Mapping Zika One Tiny Egg at a Time

 [www.coastalreview.org/2016/08/16157/](http://www.coastalreview.org/2016/08/16157/)

Catherine Clabby

*Reprinted from North Carolina Health News*

RALEIGH — Each week, Anastasia Figurskey hides 15 plastic cups filled with water in bushes near spots around Wake County where people will walk by: Gas stations, front yards of home and recycling drop-off centers all fit the bill.

After a few days the Wake County employee fishes brown paper marked with tiny black dots from each cup. After the paper dries, inside a windowless insect-hatching room at North Carolina State University, she peers at every egg under a microscope.

Hard to see with the unaided eye, mosquito eggs pop into view when magnified. The shape of the eggs tells Figurskey their likely species, which she notes with entries to a paper log.

“You get better at it,” the young woman says, clearly relieved.

So it will go, dot by dot in 15 North Carolina counties from now into the fall, until the state starts to assemble a better map of the location and population size of mosquitoes capable of transmitting Zika virus.

It's time.



Michael Reiskind at North Carolina State University with a Tupperware container holding wriggling larvae hatched from mosquito eggs trapped in the wild. Photo: Catherine Clabby

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Why is your news significant? Will this help people? Solve a truly pressing problem? Might it spark reform? Is this something entirely new or something old seen anew? Does it address unfairness? Expose corruption?

## **2. What?**

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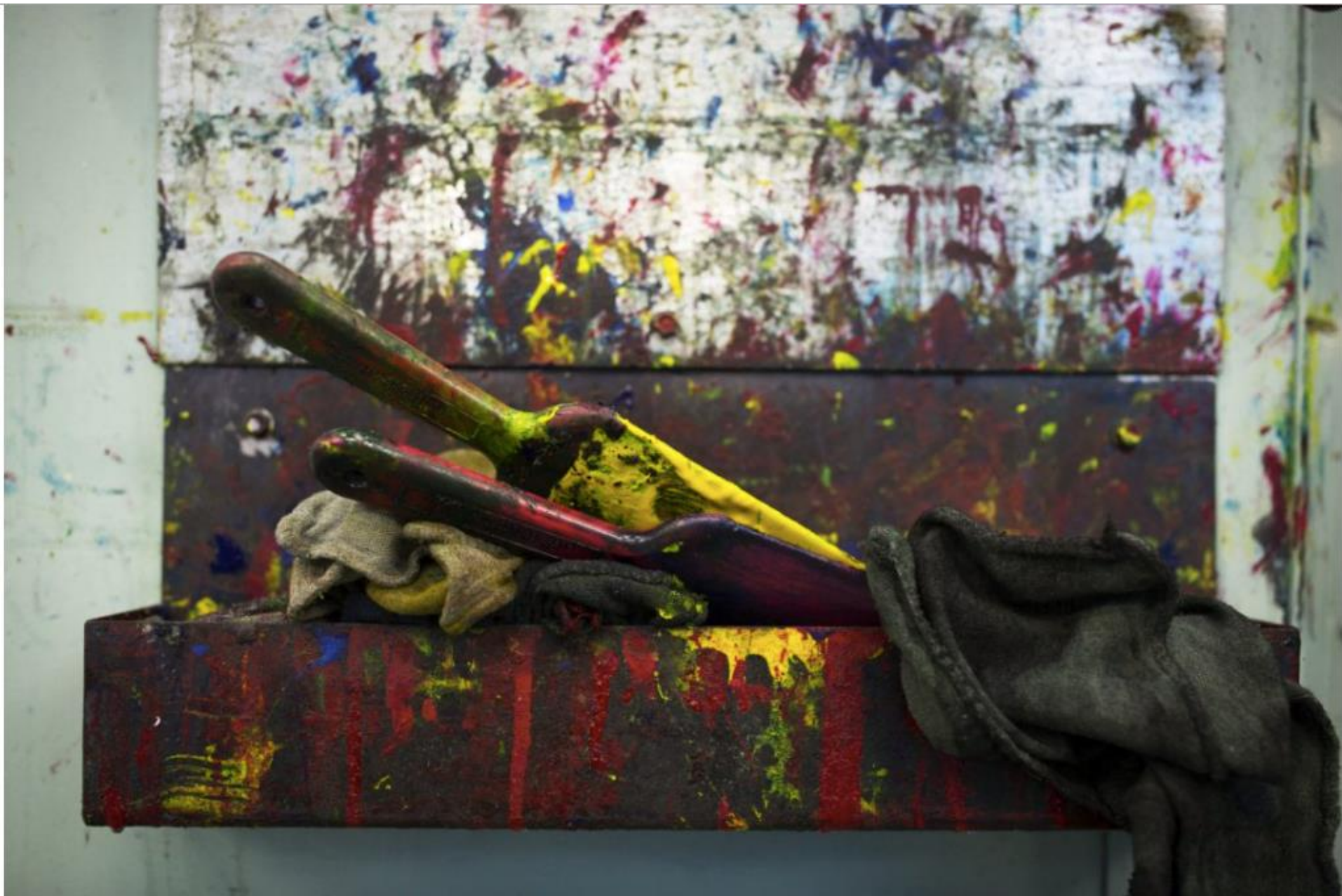
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For capturing *Aedes* mosquito eggs in the wild, plastic stadium cups are the traps of choice. Photo: Catherine Clabby











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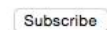


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By Mark Binker

**RALEIGH, N.C.** — Gov. Pat McCrory said Wednesday that a group of top business leaders helped to draft [House Bill 2](#), something the North Carolina Chamber has denied for months.

The statement appears to put the Republican, who is seeking re-election this fall, directly at odds with the state's