

## Eleonora Flacio, PhD

<https://www.im.supsi.ch/ecologia-dei-vettori>; [www.supsi.ch/go/zanzare](http://www.supsi.ch/go/zanzare); [www.mosquitoes-switzerland.ch](http://www.mosquitoes-switzerland.ch)

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### Work activity

Dr Eleonora Flacio is a biologist-ecologist leading the Vector Ecology sector for the Institute of Microbiology at the University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland. She has more than 20 years of experience in the surveillance and control of mosquitoes and holds a professional pest control license. She is in charge of the *Aedes albopictus* surveillance system in Canton Ticino (Switzerland) since the beginning of the same, i.e., in 2000. With her team, she coordinates all activities (surveillance, control and communication) of the Swiss Mosquito Network on invasive mosquitoes under the support of the Federal Office for the Environment, while for the Federal Office of Human Health and for the office of the cantonal doctor (Canton Ticino) she carries out the activities of surveillance and control of mosquito borne diseases. She is trainer for European Mosquito Control Association (EMCA), the European Society for Vector Ecology and AIM-COST and national expert for mosquito determinations for the Swiss Info Fauna and the European project Mosquito Alert. She has been elected twice as an EMCA board member and in 2023 as president. She is expert for the federal Vectors Working Group of the Swiss One Health and for the International Atomic Energy Agency for expert missions on Invasive mosquitoes' surveillance and control activities and for TDR/WHO IAEA project TC Project RER5026-EVT2204068 on Sterile Insect Technique for invasive mosquitoes. In 2022, she participated in the founding of the Società entomologica della Svizzera italiana (SENSI), of which she was board member.

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### Education

2016 PhD in Biology, Université de Neuchâtel (Switzerland) with the thesis: "Long term and control strategies of mosquitoes in southern Switzerland with focus on the invasive exotic species *Aedes albopictus*."

2009 Federal license for biocides applications, Verband Schweizerischer Schädlingsbekämpfer, [www.fsd-vss.ch](http://www.fsd-vss.ch)

2001 Master in Biology, Università degli Studi di Milano (Italy) with the thesis: "Sulla resistenza di *Aedes vexans* nei confronti di *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis*".

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### List of publications:

Parrondo Monton, D., Ravasi, D., Campana, V. et al. Effectiveness of the sterile insect technique in controlling *Aedes albopictus* as part of an integrated control measure: evidence from a first small-scale field trial in Switzerland. *Infect Dis Poverty* 14, 90 (2025). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40249-025-01360-2>

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David T. Dyjack, Sandra Gewehr, Eleonora Flacio. *Communicating Environmental Health Science Effectively to the Public*. *Journal of Environmental Health*. Vol. 87, Issue 8, 2025 (April 01). <https://doi.org/10.70387/001c.133855>

Damiana Ravasi, Manuela Schnyder, Valeria Guidi, Tim Haye, Diego Parrondo Monton e Eleonora Flacio. 2024. "Exploring Emerging Challenges: Survey on Phlebotomine Sand Flies and *Leishmania infantum* at the Northern Endemic Border in Europe". *Pathogens* 2024, 13(12), 1074; <https://doi.org/10.3390/pathogens13121074>

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Anicic N, Steigmiller K, Renaux C, Ravasi D, Tanadini M, Flacio E. Optical recognition of the eggs of four Aedine mosquito species (*Aedes albopictus*, *Aedes geniculatus*, *Aedes japonicus*, and *Aedes koreicus*). *PLoS One*. 2023 Nov 1;18(11):e0293568. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0293568.

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- Flacio, Eleonora, Lukas Engeler, Mauro Tonolla, e Pie Müller. «Spread and establishment of *Aedes albopictus* in southern Switzerland between 2003 and 2014: an analysis of oviposition data and weather conditions». *Parasit Vectors* 9, fasc. 1 (2016): 304. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13071-016-1577-3>.
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Dr Eleonora Flacio

Resp. Settore Ecologia dei vettori

Istituto microbiologia

Scuola Universitaria professionale della Svizzera italiana (SUPSI)

Via Flora Ruchat Roncati 15

CH-6850 Mendrisio