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Macro Roundup Article

Headline: The Race Against Time To Defeat Mosquito-Borne Diseases

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Tweet: The US saw its first domestic malaria cases in 20 years, with infections reported in Florida, Texas, and Maryland last year, as environmental changes expand mosquito ranges.

Summary: The US saw its first homegrown malaria cases for 20 years last year, with infections reported in Florida, Texas, and Maryland. This expansion is in some ways a reversion to historical trends. Malaria used to be endemic in the US and Europe, known by names such as "marsh fever" and "ague". Dengue, chikungunya, and Zika virus outbreaks have also occurred recently in US states and territories, according to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. There is reason to think climate change and other environmental trends will widen mosquito ranges still further. Higher temperatures can increase biting frequency and the reproduction rates of both the insect and the pathogens it bears. Flooding made more frequent by climate change creates new stagnant pools for the insects to lay eggs, as do expanded water storage efforts in areas stricken by drought.

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