Zika, one of many health threats on the planet, is a mosquito borne disease. The virus is spread by the Aedes aegypti mosquito.

Symptoms of Zika:
- Headache & Fever
- Skin Rash
- Conjunctivitis
- Joint Pain

Onset is usually 2 - 7 days after the mosquito bite. 1 in 5 people with Zika infection develops symptoms. A very small number of people can develop complications after becoming ill with the virus.

Transmission:
Mosquitoes can bite 1-2 days before or after their feeding cycle.
- It can detect and transmit the virus to its female partner.
- A pregnant woman can infect her baby during pregnancy or while breastfeeding.
- There is scientific consensus that Zika virus causes microcephaly in infants.
- It can also be transmitted sexually from an infected man to his partner.
- Mosquitoes can bite more than one person during their feeding cycle.

How to protect yourself:
- Use repellents at all times.
- Wear long sleeved tops and pants.
- Use mosquito netting at night.
- Use fans or air conditioning.

How to protect your customers and employees:
- Turn over buckets and other items holding water.
- Check gutters and flower pot bases for pooling water.
- Empty flower vases.
- Clear clogged drains.
- Install mosquito screens on doors and windows.
- Leave fans on during both day and night.
- Check water tanks for damaged or blocked filters.
- Educate staff on how to prevent mosquitoes breeding at your site.

There is no vaccine against the Zika virus, prevention through a focus on breeding sites, leveraging our knowledge of mosquito behavior and biology to get to the source and prevent mosquitoes before they can be a problem.

Prevention based on the conditions and needs at your site, this would include treatment of harborage sites and other high risk areas, or installation of monitors.

Contact your local Ecolab representative for more information.

Sources: