Oxitec set to expand GM mosquito trials in Brazil

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis.

Oxitec and Piracicaba City Hall have finalized their multi-year expansion of the 'Friendly *Aedes aegypti* Project' to cover an area of 60,000 people in the center of the city of Piracicaba, Brazil. Due to the large number of people who travel through this region, this project may also benefit neighbouring areas of the city. Additionally, the initial project, which has been deploying Oxitec's OX513A solution in an area of 5,000 people in the CECAP/Eldorado district since April 2015, has been extended.

"Piracicaba's decision to broaden the reach of our project demonstrates their confidence in our innovative vector control solution and is an important step forward in the effort to combat the dangerous *Aedes aegypti* mosquito, and the viruses it transmits, in a highly targeted and environmentally safe manner," said Oxitec Chief Executive Officer Hadyn Parry.

It is estimated that up to half of the world's population lives alongside the dangerous *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes which are the primary vector for dengue, chikungunya, and Zika virus — some of the most damaging arboviruses to public health and economies of nations.

Read full, original post: Oxitec Expands Vector Control Solution in Brazil