

Title: The title is accurate and informative; no editor or reviewer found fault with it during review process. It is clearly stated in the text, and data in the figures indicate, that we genotyped fluorescent larvae carrying the transgene separately from wildtype larvae not carrying the transgene. It is the wildtype larvae that give evidence of introgression which is clearly what is stated in the paper and therefore it is abundantly clear the transgene itself is not introgressing.

Abstract and Introduction: Prior to publication neither reviewers nor editors found the Abstract or Introduction inaccurate or misleading. The issue of whether the introgressed sequences remain in the population over time is clearly addressed in the paper. We explicitly point out that the proportion of introgressed individuals decreased over time (Table 1 and supplementary table E2). We state in the Discussion “This observation also implies that introgressed individuals may be at a selective disadvantage causing their apparent decrease after release ceased.....” As to not stating the transgene is lost from the population, this is moot as there is no evidence (nor do we claim) it was ever in the population.

Twice, in the Abstract (“It is unclear how this may affect disease transmission or affect other efforts to control these dangerous vectors.”) and Discussion (“It is not known what impacts introgression from a transgenic strain of *Ae. aegypti* has on traits of importance to disease control and transmission.”), we explicitly state that we do not know what impact the observed introgression has with regard to disease transmission or control. We do point out that, because the three populations now making up the Jacobina population are genetically distinct (supplementary figure E2), the genetic diversity of the population has increased which “likely” leads to a more robust genetically diverse population. This phenomenon is very well known and established in evolutionary genetics.

To our knowledge, this is the first detailed follow-up genetic monitoring of the effect of transgenic mosquito releases on a target population. It is simply not true, in any meaningful sense, that adherence to Brazilian regulations involved any genetic monitoring follow-up of the effect of the releases. Our point is that such regulators should considering requiring the kind of study we conducted.

All authors saw versions of this manuscript prior to publication. It was a mis-understanding of journal policy that inadvertently led to not all authors being sent the final version by the corresponding author.