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Seasonality and the dynamics of Mycobacterium ulcerans Transmission.

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Seasonality and the dynamics of Mycobacterium ulcerans
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The complete epidemiology of Mycobacterium ulcerans (MU) infection is yet to be determined. It has been postulated that the disease is spread by a vector whose breeding habits are determined by environmental factors such as seasonal temperature and rainfall regimes. In this paper, a mathematical model that incorporates the effects of seasonality has been compared with a non-seasonal model. It is shown that the number of secondary cases of Buruli Ulcer (BU) produced by a typical infected individual increases due to seasonality. Thus the effects of seasonality lead to an enhancement of the spread of BU.