

## MOSQUITO OVIPOSITION IN BAMBOO TRAPS IN JAFFNA PENINSULA

N.R. Antony, G.F. Rajendram  
 Dept. of Zoology, University of Jaffna

The breeding habits of tree hole and other container breeding mosquitoes in Jaffna peninsula were studied by means of bamboo traps hung from trees in Thirunelvely. A total of 24 collections from 6 traps (144 trap collections) were made and the identifications carried out based on the characteristics of eggs, immatures and adults. Three species of Aedes mosquitoes oviposited in the bamboo traps -- Aedes (Stegomyia) aegypti (Linnaeus), Aedes (Stegomyia) albopictus (Skuse) and Aedes (Stegomyia) novalbopictus Barraud. Ae. aegypti was the predominant species. Ae. aegypti and Ae. albopictus oviposited in both open and bored traps, though there were significantly more occurrences and more eggs laid by both these species in open rather than bored traps. Ae. novalbopictus oviposited only in open traps.

Though other tree breeding mosquitoes have been recorded in Jaffna peninsula-- Armigeres (Armigeres) durhami Edwards, Armigeres (Armigeres) subalbatus (Coquillett) and Culex sp. (Rajendram & Antony, 1986) and Culex (Culex) quinquefasciatus Say (Rajendram & Nagalingam, 1985) -- no oviposition by these species was noted in the present study. Differences were observed in the species composition, frequency of oviposition and number of eggs deposited from studies carried out in Peradeniya (Amerasinghe & Alagoda, 1984).

## References

- Amerasinghe, F.P. and Alagoda, T.S.B. (1984) Insect Sci. Applic. 5(6):493-500  
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