

PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS ON THE ANOPHELINE MOSQUITOES
OF GOMADIYAGALA : A VILLAGE IN THE
NORTH - WESTERN PROVINCE OF SRI LANKA

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Investigations on anopheline mosquitoes were carried out in Gomadiyagala during January - December 1989, primarily to gather base-line data in relation to a collaborative study between the Department of Zoology, University of Sri Jayewardenepura and the Entomology Division, Anti-Malaria Campaign on the potential for a genetic approach for malaria control in Sri Lanka. Eight anopheline species were recorded from adult catches and larvae sampled. An. subpictus, An. culicifacies and An. varuna were the most predominant species.

The main stream with its two tributaries were found to be the permanent and productive anopheline breeding habitats. Larval and adult anopheline densities were related to the rainfall received. The monthly larval densities showed a negative correlation with the amount of rainfall received with $t=1.405$, $n=10$, and $p<0.2$. The regression line gave $Y = 191.4 - 157.8X$ (where X = monthly rainfall in mm and Y = total number of anopheline larvae per dip). The months of August, September and October which record relatively low larval and adult An. culicifacies densities appear to be suitable times for field releases of genetically altered An. culicifacies in the area for malaria control.