

## Mosquito Fauna of Thailand

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**OBJECTIVE:** To collect, identify, catalogue and redescribe the mosquito species of Thailand. Information is also gathered on the distribution, larval habitats and other aspects of the bionomics of various species. The eventual goal is the production of monographs on the mosquitoes of the area, together with keys, handbooks and other identification aids, for use of workers in public health and associated fields.

**DESCRIPTION:** Mosquitoes are collected from many areas of Thailand in connection with various studies on malaria and other arthropod borne diseases. Additional collections of a specialized nature are made to obtain a correlated series of larvae, pupae and adults for illustration and taxonomic studies. The majority of this material is shipped to the Smithsonian Institution for study by specialists in the Southeast Asia Mosquito Project (SEAMP).

**PROGRESS:** During this year 173 mosquito collections were made in three provinces of Thailand. The majority of the collections were made in Chiangmai province. These collections resulted in 1035 pinned adults, 1490 slide mounts of larvae, larval and pupal skins and 50 slide mounts of terminalia. An additional 410 collections of mosquito larvae were received for identification, 560 larvae with parasites were mounted for further study and 1172 slides of *Culicoides* from light trap collections were made.

*Anopheles*—During this period adult female *An. (An.) campestris* were collected in an effort to establish a laboratory colony for experimental studies. This species is the most important species in the *barbirostris* group and is a vector of human malaria in western Malaysia. Adults of *An. campestris* resemble those of *An. barbirostris*, and identifications based on adult characters alone should be confirmed by examination of the immature stages, particularly the pupae. Larvae of this species were found in ground water habitats of various types including marshes, wells, hoof prints, ditches and swamps. Larvae of *An. (An.) hodgkini*, an uncommon species in *barbirostris* group, were collected from stream and rock pools in association with *barbumbrosus*, *bengalensis* and *balabacensis* larvae at the malaria study site in Prachinburi province.

*Culex*—Studies of Subgenus *Culex* were continued. Species of *Culex vishnui* subgroup were collected in an effort to obtain female *Culex pseudovishnui* for sibling rearings.

*Aedes*—Bamboo cup collections were made in an attempt to obtain rarer species of the Subgenus *Stegomyia*. A colony of *Aedes craggi* was established with material collected in Chiangmai province. Collections of *Aedes albopictus*, one of the commonest species in Thailand, were checked in an effort to find specimens of *Aedes patricia* and *A. novalbopictus* species which closely resemble *A. albopictus*. All species in this subgenus can be distinguished by characters of the male terminalia.

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