

Biting Activity Cycles of some Antropophilic Mosquito Species in Malaysia[#]

Elton Rogozi^{1*}, Rohani Bt. Ahmad², Zamree Ismail²

¹Infectious Diseases Control Department, Institute of Public Health, Str.: "Aleksander Moisiu", No. 80, Tirana, Albania; ²Medical Entomology Unit, Institute for Medical Research, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

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Abstract: A study of the mosquito biting activity cycles was undertaken in three recreational parks of Commonwealth, Sendayu and Sendat in the Selangor state, Malaysia. Human landing catch was the technique used to collect the adult female mosquitoes. This collection was performed from 6:00 pm to 06:00 am. Identification of the individuals was performed by the standard taxonomical keys. A total of 167 specimens belonging to 18 species and 6 genera all in *Culicidae* family were captured during this study. The main genera captured were *Aedes* (*Ae. albopictus*, *Ae. aegypti* and *Ae. niveus*); *Anopheles* (*An. maculatus*, *An. karwari* and *An. introlatus*); *Armigeres* (*Ar. durhami*, *Ar. confuses*, *Ar. subalbatus* and *Ar. moultoni*); *Culex* (*Cx. vishnui*, *Cx. pseudovishnui*, *Cx. quinquefasciatus* and *Cx. sitiens*); *Mansonia* (*Ma. bonneae*, *Ma. indiana* and *Ma. uniformis*) and *Culiseta* (*Culiseta* sp.). Biting activities for *Aedes* peaked at dusk 6:00-7:00 pm, and at dawn 5:00-6:00 am; *Anopheles* peaked at 9:00-10:00 pm and at 00:00-01:00 am; *Armigeres* peaked at 6:00-7:00 pm; *Culex* had some irregular peaks almost throughout the night, and *Mansonia* species peaked at 7:00-8:00 pm and another peak at 01:00-02:00 am. In general, in genus level, human landing catch was the best technique for collecting *Aedes*, *Armigeres* and *Anopheles* species. But, even some *Culex* and *Mansonia* species were captured by this technique. *Ae. albopictus*, *An. maculatus*, *Ar. durhami* and *Cx. quinquefasciatus* were present in the three stations; meanwhile *Ma. bonneae* was present only in Commonwealth and Sendat stations.

Keywords: *Mosquito, biting activity cycle, antropophilic, landing catch, Malaysia.*

*Corresponding: E-mail: eltonrogozi@yahoo.com; Tel: +355672052922; Fax: +35542370058

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