

Incidence of *Aedes albopictus* and *Culex quinquefasciatus* mosquito larvae (Diptera: Culicidae) in residential area of Kampung Tringus, Kuching Division, Sarawak

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ABSTRACT

Mosquito-borne diseases are a significant public health concern in tropical regions, including Sarawak, Malaysia. This study investigated the occurrence of *Aedes albopictus* and *Culex quinquefasciatus* mosquito larvae in breeding containers in residential area of Bau, Sarawak. Sampling was conducted by collecting mosquito larvae from a total of 252 natural and artificial containers over a period of six months, from September 2018 to February 2019. The collected larvae were reared to adults and identified using morphological characteristics of the species. Ten mosquito species belonging to five genera were documented in the present study. A total of 5,825 individuals were encountered within the residential area. The study revealed a high incidence of both *Ae. albopictus* totalling 2,708 individuals, and *Cx. quinquefasciatus*, comprising 721 individuals, in larval stages within breeding containers within the residential area of Bau. The mosquito species with the lowest number was *Tripteroides* sp., with only three individuals collected over the six-month study. This study provides valuable insight into the predominance of *Ae. albopictus* and *Cx. quinquefasciatus* as the most prevalent container breeding mosquito species in residential area in Bau. An understanding of the distribution and abundance of mosquito species in residential area is crucial for raising awareness and implementing effective vector control measures.

Keywords: *Aedes albopictus*, *Culex quinquefasciatus*, breeding containers, residential areas, Sarawak