Research Note

Cibarial dome of group-A female
Aedes (Finlaya) mosquitoes

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Members of the group-A or *kochi* group of the genus *Aedes* subgenus *Finlaya* are ornamented mosquitoes having numerous distinctive characters as reviewed by Knight and Marks (1952). However, the cibarial structure of these and other aedine mosquitoes has not been studied since Barraud and Covell (1928) first described it in the female fore-gut of various species. While carrying out comparative studies on the cibarial and pharyngeal structure, the author found that group-A female *Aedes (Finlaya)* mosquitoes had a well developed cibarial dome as described by Harbach and Knight (1980), equivalent to the shagreened area of Barraud and Covell (1928). Materials examined were specimens of female mosquitoes belonging to group A subgroup I, i.e., *kochi* group s.str., comprising *Ae. kochi* (collected in Ambon Island), *poicilius*, *ananae*, *stonei*, *flavipennis*, *medleri* (collected in the Philippines), *samoanus*, *oceanicus* and *tutuila* (collected in West Samoa). These were compared with specimens belonging to other groups of the subgenus *Finlaya*, comprising *Ae. watasei*, *japonicus*, *formosensis*, *togoi*, *hatorii*, *macdougalli* and *niveoides*. Slides of the cibarium were prepared by means of the procedure given by Belkin (1962). The dome was removed from other parts of the cibarium for detailed examination.

In all specimens examined, the cibarial dome is essentially similar in being oval or hemispherical, relatively small, with numerous denticles. In *Ae. medleri* and *flavipennis* the shape of cibarial dome is more or less resembling that of *Culex*, being dumbbell shaped, as described by Sirivanakarn (1978)

(Fig. 5). The dome of *kochi*, *poicilius*, *ananae* and *samoanus* is hemispherical and densely imbricate with numerous denticles (Figs. 1, 3, 4). In male mosquitoes of A-group and female mosquitoes of the other *Finlaya* groups only a weak posterior end of the posterior hard plate was recognized (e.g., *Ae. togoi*, Fig. 2). Although only a limited number of species were examined, it seems that the cibarial dome is a particularly developed character in group-A *Finlaya* mosquito females.

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摘 要

Aedes (Finlaya) A 群雌成虫にみられる
cibarial dome

各種蚊成虫の cibarium と pharynx の形態を比較検討している間に、*Aedes (Finlaya)* では、その中の A 群 (*kochi* グループ) にのみ、cibarial dome がよく発達していることが見いだされた。A 群の蚊は、他群と容易に区分しうる特徴が知られているが、dome の存在については従来記載されていない。なお今回比較検討した本亜属は A 群 9 種、B-H 群 7 種である。

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Fig. 1 Cibarium and cibarial dome of *Ae. kochi*

Fig. 2 Posterior end of cibarium of *Ae. togoi*

Fig. 3 Cibarial dome of *Ae. samoanus*

Fig. 4 Cibarial dome of *Ae. ananae*

Fig. 5 Cibarial dome of *Ae. medleri*

Scales indicate 0.02 mm.