

## SPECIES COMPOSITION AND RELATIVE PREVALENCE OF MOSQUITO LARVAE IN KUWAIT STATE

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A year round field survey (March, 1994–February, 1995) was carried out in five ecological areas representing the various ecosystems in Kuwait State, to identify and study mosquito species larval composition and relative prevalence during various months of the year in the country.

Nine species were detected in the following descending order: *Culex (Cx) pipiens molestus* (63.23%), *Cx. (Cx.) pipiens quinquefasciatus* (27.73%), *Aedes (Ochlerotatus) caspius* (5.84%), *Cx. (Barraudius) pusillus* (2.56%), *Culiseta (Allotheobaldia) longiareolata* (0.48%), *Cx. (Cx.) tritaeniorhynchus* (0.05%), *Anopheles (Myzomyia) stephensi* (0.02%), *An. (Myzomyia) pulcherrimus* (0.002%) and *Cu. (Allotheobaldia) inornata* (0.002%).

Two previous recorded species, namely, *Cx. (Cx.) univittus* and *Cx. (Cx.) theileri* were lacking in the present study, whereas this study added *Cu. inornata* and identified the two forms of *Cx. pipiens* complex, namely, *Cx. pipiens molestus* and *Cx. pipiens quinquefasciatus*. Nevertheless, *Cx. univittus* was encountered again in the late months of 1995.

Relative prevalence of the forementioned larval species during all months of the year was recorded.