

SCIENTIFIC NOTE

A NOTE ON THE OCCURRENCE OF *CULEX* (*LOPHOCERAOMYIA*) *PEYTONI* AND *HEIZMANNIA* (*HEIZMANNIA*) *REIDI* (DIPTERA: CULICIDAE) IN ASSAM, INDIA

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ABSTRACT. *Culex* (*Lophoceraomyia*) *peytoni* Bram and Rattanarithikul is recorded for the first time from mainland India and *Heizmannia* (*Heizmannia*) *reidi* Mattingly for the first time from Assam, in northeast India.

KEY WORDS *Culex peytoni*, *Heizmannia reidi*, Indian record, tree hole mosquito, northeast India

INTRODUCTION

Mosquitoes belonging to the subgenus *Lophoceraomyia* of the genus *Culex* occur mainly in the Oriental, Indomalayan, and Australasian regions (Bram 1967). Barraud (1934) described 10 species of this subgenus from British India. *Culex* (*Lophoceraomyia*) *peytoni* was described from Patthalung Province by Bram and Rattanarithikul (1967). Sirivanakarn (1977) reported its occurrence in Andaman Islands of India. However, there are no records of this species from mainland India.

Mattingly (1970) recorded *Heizmannia* (*Heizmannia*) *reidi* from Sukna, Darjeeling District, West Bengal, India. This species was recognized earlier as *H. indica* by Barraud (1934). Although this species is common in the eastern Himalayas, it has not been recorded in the northeastern states of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, and Tripura, India. In this note, we report the occurrence of *Cx. peytoni* and *H. reidi* in Assam State of northeastern India. *Culex peytoni* is recorded from mainland India for the first time.

CULEX (*LOPHOCERAOMYIA*) *PEYTONI*

On 23 September 1996, during larval surveys for *Anopheles dirus*, we collected larvae from a tree hole in an evergreen tropical rain forest known as the Soraipung range. This area is located in the Dibrugarh District, Assam, India (27°35'N, 95°41'E) at a height of 152 m above sea level. Two adult male *Cx. peytoni* were reared from these larvae. The identification was confirmed by dissecting the genitalia and comparing them with the description provided by Sirivanakarn (1977). The specimens (1 male with associated larval and pupal exuviae; 1 male with its genitalia mounted on a glass microscope slide) have been deposited in the museum of

the Centre for Research in Medical Entomology, Madurai, India.

HEIZMANNIA (*HEIZMANNIA*) *REIDI*

Larvae of *H. reidi* were collected from the same tree hole and on the same date as the *Cx. peytoni* mentioned above. Adult *H. reidi* (8 male and 10 female) were reared and identified by examining the associated larval and pupal exuviae of 5 males and 3 females, and the genitalia of 2 males. The specimens are deposited in the museum of Regional Medical Research Centre, Dibrugarh, India.

Two adult male *Tripteroides* (*Tripteroides*) *indicus* Thurman were reared from larvae collected in the same tree hole.

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