

IDENTIFICATION OF BLOOD MEAL OF FIELD CAUGHT *Aedes Aegypti* (L.) BY MULTIPLEX PCR

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Abstract. Laboratory bred female *Aedes aegypti* (L.) was used to determine sensitivity of multiplex PCR for detecting human blood meal. Human blood DNA was detected in live fully fed mosquitoes until 3 days after blood feeding, and for 4 weeks when stored at -20°C. Among 890 field caught female mosquito samples examined for vertebrate DNA by multiplex PCR, results were positive for human, pig, dog, cow and mixture of 2 host DNA at 86.1, 3.4, 2.1, 1.0 and 3.6%, respectively, while 3.9% of the samples were negative. Blood feeding pattern must be considered when mosquito control strategies become employed.

Key words: *Aedes aegypti*, blood meal, multiplex PCR

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