

Biology

All mosquitoes have four stages in their life cycle: the egg, larva, pupa, and adult (figure 1). The first three stages are aquatic, and the adults are terrestrial or aerial. The female mosquito sucks blood and thus may be an important carrier of disease-causing agents from one animal to another, or to man. Male mosquitoes do not suck blood, but feed on plant juices or nectar. male mosquitoes can be distinguished from female mosquitoes by their bushy antennae.

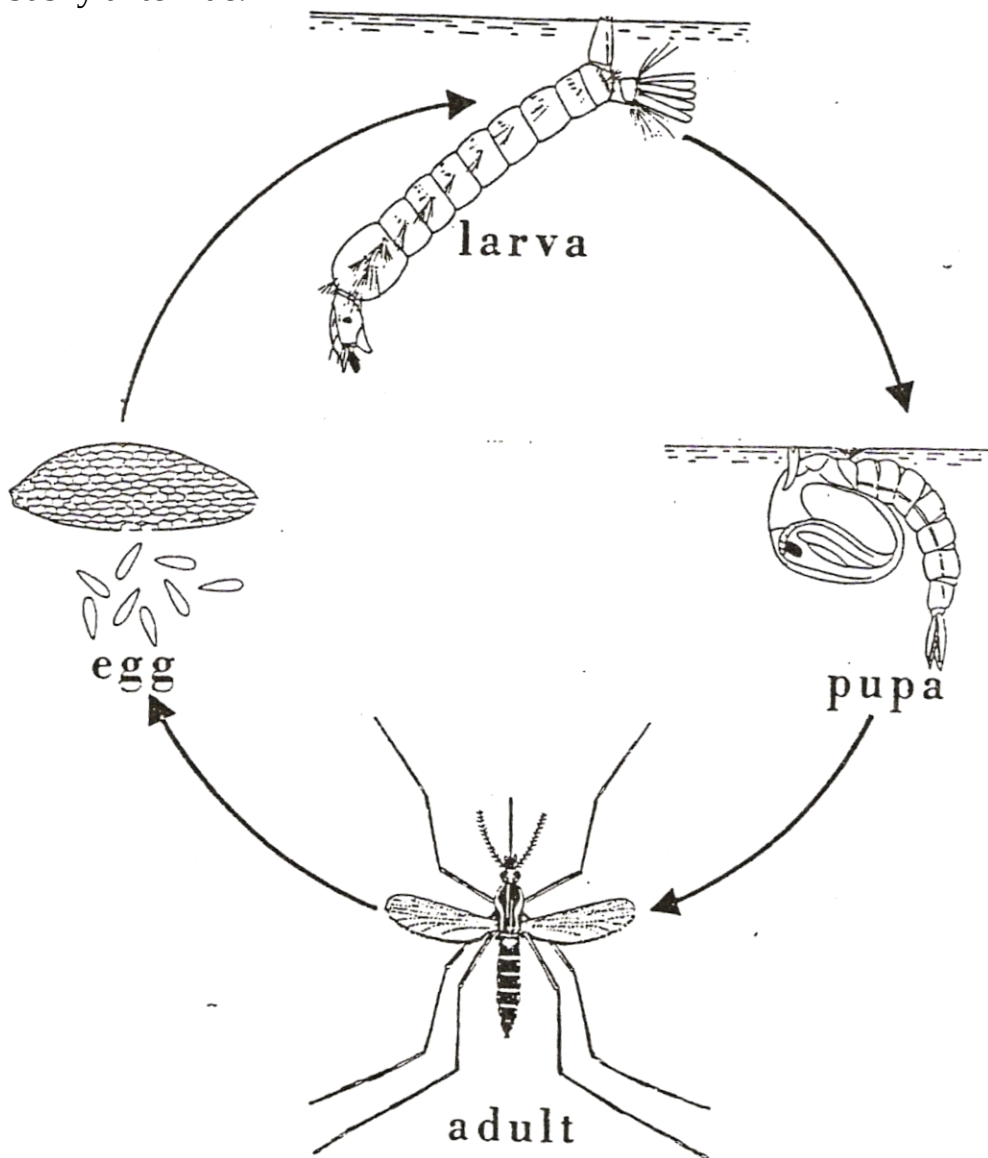
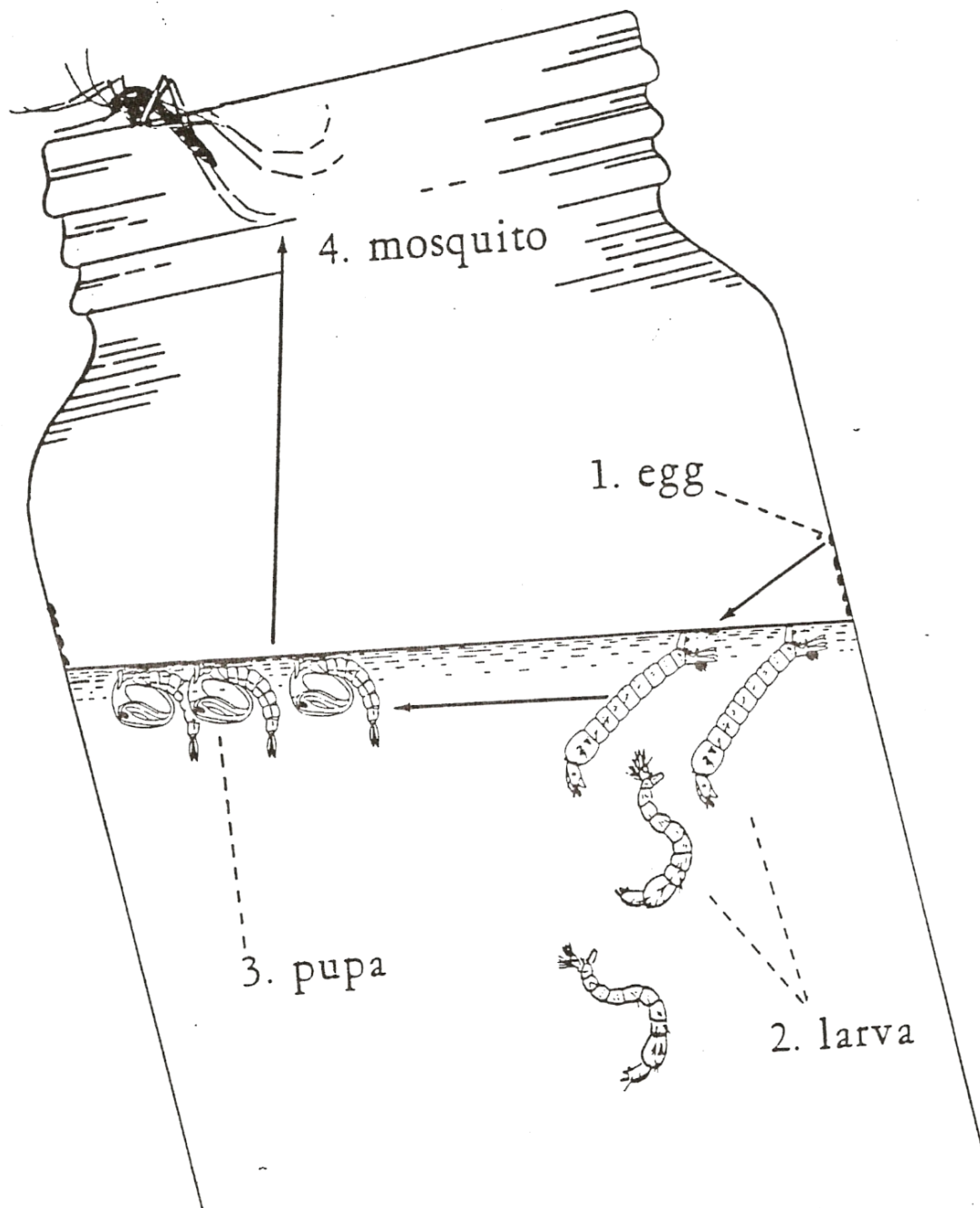


Figure 1. Life cycle of a mosquito



A MOSQUITO COMES TO LIFE

Mosquitoes need water in which to hatch. A mosquito begins as an egg (1), then it hatches in a larva (2), then it turns into a pupa (3), and the pupa turns into a mosquito. the mosquito then flies away from the water to find a meal of blood.

BIOLOGY OF IMPORTANT MOSQUITO SPECIES BASED ON THE BASIC TYPES OF OVIPOSITION SITES*

1. Container habitats:

a. Artificial (all types)

- *Aedes aegypti*
- *Aedes albopictus*
- *Ochlerotatus japonicus*
- *Ochlerotatus triseriatus*
- *Anopheles punctipennis*
- *Culex pipiens*
- *Culex restuans*
- *Toxorhynchites rutilus*

b. Natural (all types)

- *Aedes albopictus*
- *Ochlerotatus japonicus*
- *Ochlerotatus triseriatus*
- *Toxorhynchites rutilus*

2. Soil based habitats with still water

a. Permanent water (all types)

- *Anopheles crucians*
- *Anopheles punctipennis*
- *Anopheles quadrimaculatus*
- *Coquillettidia perturbans*
- *Culex erraticus*
- *Culex salinarius*
- *Culiseta melanura*

b. Semi-permanent (all types)

- *Ochlerotatus canadensis*
- *Aedes cinereus*
- *Culex pipiens*
- *Culex restuans*

c. Transient water (all types)

i. River, creek, floodwater pools

- *Ochlerotatus sticticus*
- *Ochlerotatus trivittatus*
- *Psorophora horrida*
- *Psorophora mathesoni*

ii. Rain water pools

- *Ochlerotatus atlanticus/tormentor*
- *Ochlerotatus fulvus pallens*
- *Ochlerotatus infirmatus*
- *Aedes vexans*
- *Psorophora ciliata*
- *Psorophora columbiae*
- *Psorophora ferox*
- *Psorophora howardii*
- iii. Brackish water pools
 - *Ochlerotatus sollicitans*
 - *Ochlerotatus taeniorhynchus*
 - *Anopheles atropos*
 - *Anopheles bradleyi*
 - *Culex salinarius*
- 3. Soil based habitats with running water
 - *Anopheles punctipennis*
 - *Culex restuans*

